Daily Report

East Europe

FBIS-EEU-88-238
Monday
12 December 1988

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Mladenov Returns From Italy 6 Dec
AU0912134088 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 7 Dec 88 p 5

[Text] Petur Mladenov, minister of foreign affairs, returned from Italy yesterday where he paid an official visit at the invitation of his Italian colleague Giulio Andreotti.

He was welcomed at Sofia airport by deputy ministers of foreign affairs, as well as by Giorgio Visetti, charge d'affaires ad interim of the Italian Embassy in Sofia.

Atanasov Receives Soviet Minister Lemayev
AU0912191388 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Comrade Georgi Atanasov received Nikolay Lemayev, minister of the petroleum-refining and petrochemical industry of the USSR, in Sofia today.

It was pointed out that the agreements reached so far between the Biotechnological and Chemical Industry Association and the Soviet ministry form a solid basis for the accelerated development of bilateral technological and trading relations. It was stated that the Bulgarian Government will continue to encourage the deepening of cooperation in this field.

Internal Ministry Delegation Returns From Moscow
AU0912162688 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] A delegation of the Ministry of Internal Affairs led by Comrade Dimitur Stoyanov returned to Sofia today from Moscow. The delegation had been on an official visit at the invitation of Vladimir Kryuchkov, chairman of the Presidium of the Committee for State Security of the USSR.

The delegation had meetings at which an exchange of experience took place, and matters of mutual interest were discussed.

Relief Planes Depart for Armenia
AU1012193088 Sofia BTA in English 1915 GMT 10 Dec 88

["Relief for Disaster-Stricken Armenia"—BTA headline]

[Text] Sofia, December 10 (BTA)—As relief for the people in Armenia stricken by the disastrous earthquake, two aircraft carrying 18 tons of medicines and dressings, 20 tons of food and 16 specialists with dogs specially trained for finding people under the ruins left for Armenia today.

Further supplies of medicines, food, blankets, warm clothes and tents will follow and they will be also transported by air.

An account has been opened in the name of the Bulgarian Red Cross for raising relief funds and substantial amounts of money granted by economic organizations, enterprises, public organizations and individual citizens have been already deposited.

Twenty medical teams of highly qualified specialists and three multi-profile field hospitals, each providing bed space for 300 people and furnished with the necessary equipment, are ready to leave for Armenia upon request. Arrangements have been made so that Bulgarian hospitals can receive for treatment a considerable number of those injured in the earthquake by a special air bridge Armenia-Bulgaria.

The pharmaceutical plants in Bulgaria today were at work and their produce will be sent to Armenia on a special aircraft. A lot of other enterprises announced their decision to make one of their days off a working day and to pay in the money to the account raising relief funds for the fraternal Armenian people.

A committee which will coordinate all activity related to rendering assistance to the earthquake-stricken population in Armenia was set up with the Council of Ministers.

Diplomatic Talks Held With Albania
AU1012183588 Sofia BTA in English 1814 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Sofia, December 10 (BTA)—Consultations between the Ministries of Foreign Affairs of Bulgaria and Albania took place here today. The two sides exchanged views on the problems of multilateral cooperation in the Balkans and on matters of mutual interest. The Bulgarian delegation was headed by Mr Stefan Staykov, head of the Balkan Countries Department with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Albanian—by Mr Petraq Pojani, director of a department with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Mr Petraq Pojani was received by Mr Mariy Ivanov, first deputy minister of foreign affairs.

Atanasov Meets Cuban Deputy Premier Mendendez
AU0912191788 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1830 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Comrade Georgi Atanasov received Ramiro Valdes Menendez, vice president of the Cuban Council of Ministers, in Sofia today.

The meeting was attended by Andrey Lukanov, minister of foreign economic relations.

Danish Prince Consort Pays Official Visit

Greeted at Airport

AU0812163688 Sofia Domestic Service in Bulgarian 1600 GMT 8 Dec 88

[Text] Today His Excellency Prince Consort Henrik, the husband of Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, arrived on a visit at the invitation of State Council Chairman Todor Zhivkov.

At Sofia airport the guest was met by Georgi Dzhagarov, deputy chairman of the State Council. The Bulgarian ambassador to Denmark, Ivan Spasov, and the charge d'affaires ad interim of the Danish Embassy in Sofia, [name indistinct], were in attendance.

Received by Zhivkov

AU0812194888 Sofia BTA in English 1832 GMT 8 Dec 88

[Text] Sofia, December 8 (BTA)—Mr Todor Zhivkov, president of the State Council, received His Royal Highness the Prince Consort Henrik, husband of Queen Margrethe II of Denmark, who is visiting here at his invitation.

In a friendly atmosphere, the two considered matters of bilateral concern.

At the Boyana Residence Mr Todor Zhivkov gave a dinner for the guest.

Kubadinski-Led Delegation Returns From Portugal

AU0712122588 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 6 Dec 88 p 2

[Text] The BCP delegation led by Pencho Kubadinski, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the Fatherland Front National Council, returned from Lisbon on 5 December. The delegation had taken part in the work of the 12th PCP Congress.

Tellalov Gives Views on Human Rights Activities

AU0912133588 Sofia POGLED in Bulgarian No 49, 5 Dec 88 p 7

[Interview with Konstantin Tellalov, chairman of the Committee of Human Rights in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, by Encho Gospodinov, POGLED's foreign policy commentator: "For Man—With a Human Approach"—date and place not given]

[Text] [Gospodinov] May we ask you, Comrade Tellalov, as chairman of the Committee of Human Rights in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, to briefly describe goals of your organization, its statute, and the results expected from its activities?

[Tellalov] Our goals are lofty. They are described in detail in Article 2 of our statute. I will just cite a few of them:

—confirming the spirit of respect for and observance of basic human rights and freedoms, and of man's dignity; contributing to their implementation in accordance with the basic principles of the socialist constitutional state;

—contributing to the improvement of our national legislation in the field of human rights in accordance with the principles of humanitarianism, socialist democracy, and social justice, as well as with the generally recognized norms of international law, international documents, and other treaties on human rights which Bulgaria has signed;

—assisting in the accurate and equal application of the Constitution, of laws, and other normative documents related to human rights, as well as in defending the rights of Bulgarian and foreign citizens within our country, whose rights have been violated by state organs, social organizations, and officials;

—contributing to the dissemination of knowledge about human rights and about the instruments for their effective protection;

—expressing solidarity with, assisting, and supporting foreign citizens abroad who are persecuted because of their struggle for human rights, against racial discrimination and other forms of discrimination; because of their participation in the national liberation movement, as well as their political, scientific, and artistic activities; or because of their participation in the peace struggle.

In addition to the aforementioned basic goals, the statute contains a large section defining the methods through which these goals should be achieved, and I would like to mention the following among them:

—submitting proposals to the Legislative Commission, to the Defense of Social Interests and Citizens' Rights Commission, to the Foreign Policy Commission, and to the Legislation Commission of the National Assembly, as well as to other organs and officials authorized to take legislative initiative for the purpose of improving human rights legislation;

—submitting proposals to the State Council, the Council of Ministers, to ministers and to leaders of other departments, to the people's councils and executive committees, in order to improve legal and other documents pertaining to human rights which are issued by them;

—examining warning letters from citizens and public organizations related to violations of their rights and assisting state and public organizations within the country in eliminating such violations;

—addressing warning letters and justified proposals to the National Assembly Defense of Social Interests and Citizens' Rights Commission, to the prosecution organs, and to other legal defense and control organs regarding violations of human rights committed by state organs, public organizations, and individual officials;

—appealing to the national governmental and nongovernmental organs and organizations, as well as supporting social initiatives related to the violation of human rights in other countries.

It is still too early to speak of the results of our work, since we are just at the beginning. As you know, the Human Rights Committee is a public, independent, and non-governmental organization; it is financially supported by voluntary contributions and donations from public and other non-governmental organizations, foundations, private persons, and by its own publishing activities. We in Bulgaria lack experience in these matters; therefore it is necessary to rally a group of voluntary collaborators around us. We need more time. I am convinced that good results will be produced, but this is for the public, and for you, the journalists, to evaluate.

[Gospodinov] In which spheres of life are the rights of Bulgarian citizens not at the level of the most democratic traditions in the world, and what should be done about it?

[Tellalov] Such comparisons are difficult to make. The present-day world is so diversified; so many different socioeconomic systems exist; and every country has different systems for regulating citizens' rights and freedoms because of the peculiarities of domestic legislation and the constitutional rights granted to citizens.

Generally speaking, our Constitution and legislation guarantee the basic rights and freedoms of Bulgarian citizens. Our trouble lies in another area: in our daily practice. It has already become widely known that we allowed many shortcomings and even crimes against human rights to be committed during the period of building socialism. The balance between the rights and freedoms of citizens on the one hand, and the rights and obligations of the administrative apparatus on the other hand, was disrupted. Tremendous power was entrusted to the latter. Bureaucracy forgot (and still continues to do so) that all power stems from the people and belongs to them; it forgot about the supremacy of the Constitution and of the law while it ruled by regulations issued on the basis of its own understanding.

Naturally, generally recognized and internationally established standards about human rights exist in the world, such as the Human Rights Declaration and dozens of international conventions and treaties adopted by various UN organs.

A special working commission of our committee is now reviewing the Constitution in the sphere of human rights. When it has accomplished its task I will be able to tell you along which lines we will propose amendments, or addenda.

You are aware of the fact that at Comrade Todor Zhivkov's initiative, legal reforms started in our country and that we intend to actively participate in this process.

[Gospodinov] Even from your short experience as chairman of the committee, can you tell us which are the main requests of the citizens addressed to you and what are their expectations?

[Tellalov] So far 82 warnings and complaints have been submitted to our committee. Examination of them shows that the complaints mainly concern administrative decisions, sentences of law courts, and unsettled labor relations, as well as the petitions of sentenced defendants, who plead for clemency, apply for their sentences to be reviewed, and so forth.

I explain the nature of these petitions and warnings by the fact that the public is still not sufficiently acquainted with our statute. It will soon be published—in issue No 1 of our bulletin. Many people confuse us with the National Assembly Defense of Social Interests and the Citizens' Rights Commission. Others claim that they have filed petitions to "all places, and could not find support anywhere," so why not try the new committee? It is still too early to make any conclusions from the aforementioned warnings and complaints, and for this reason the only thing I can tell you is that the majority of petitioners are confidently expecting that our interference will produce a positive solution to their problems. Some people even advise us to give up our work; they predict our failure. These are mostly people who have been sentenced and who bear a grudge against the court and the law court itself.

[Gospodinov] Has your committee established any contacts with other similar organizations in socialist and capitalist countries?

[Tellalov] We are sending letters containing information about the establishment of our committee almost daily. Replies are already coming in. I would like to mention just a few international events in which we participated:

—During the session of the Interparliamentarian Union we had a meeting with Mr Jan Martinson, UN deputy secretary general and director of the Human Rights Center in Geneva;

—At the same time we held a meeting with the general secretary of Amnesty International and the officials accompanying him;

—At the beginning of October 1988, I participated in global consultations on racism and racial discrimination, organized by the Human Rights Center in Geneva, and I had the honor of speaking with Mrs Mitterrand and other guest delegates;

—We received a proposal for cooperation from the Vienna Human Rights Committee, the International Lawyers Union, the GDR Human Rights Committee, the Helsinki Watchers Association in Washington, and others.

[Gospodinov] Thousands of citizens continue to manifest great interest in the question of new passports, which will make it possible to travel freely to foreign countries. What happened to this issue, after the press reported long ago that these passports will soon be granted to all those applying for them, and that this will be an act of contributing to a higher level of socialist democracy?

[Tellalov] I think that this announcement was not correctly interpreted. During my investigation, I found out that a draft law for this regulation exists, but that it has not yet been examined by the Council of Ministers and it has not been submitted to the National Assembly for discussion. You can understand that the question of issuing new passports not only pertains to the passports themselves, but is also a financial problem, and last, but not least, a problem of labor as well. Imagine how much time it takes to issue, fill in, and distribute 9 million passports! We were already informed that in 1988 numerous citizens received 5-year passports on an experimental basis.

The Human Rights Committee also insists on speeding up the procedure related to this particular law and to others.

Atanasov Meets Sofia Students 6 Dec

AU0912133488 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 7 Dec 88 p 6

[BTA: "Responsible Tasks in the Era of Re-Assessment"]

[Text] Yesterday's meeting preceding 8 December Students' Day, held by lecturers and students of the Karl Marx Higher Economic Institute in Sofia, was an expression of the party's care and confidence in the future specialists and once more confirmed the unity of academic youth with the party and people in coping with the great tasks of restructuring in our country. In assessing their work, they reported their successes in Komsomol self-management, in the technical and scientific progress movement of youth, and in their own work in scientific-research collectives and institutes. They also dealt with unresolved problems related to the mastering of computer equipment, and to the better organization of the brigade movement, as well as to their activities in connection with establishing their own students' cooperative.

Georgi Atanasov, member of the BCP Central Committee Politburo and Central Committee secretary, most sincerely congratulated the students on their forthcoming special day. He dwelt on the new role and responsibilities of our academic youth in implementing the intentions of the party and of the people's government. In recalling the militant traditions of the Bulgarian Students holiday, the speaker explained its present-day meaning, in an era which is marked by the restructuring of Bulgarian society. He described this stage in our development as a remarkable time of re-assessing our socialist development, as well as the values of society and of the people. Comrade Atanasov further elucidated the motivation for restructuring in our country, the international aspects of restructuring, and dwelled in detail on the results achieved in our country.

Comrade Georgi Atanasov answered questions from the audience related to economic management and problems of our domestic and international markets, the mass media, and the new orientation of values, as well as on the new style of life, and other things. The meeting was attended by Ivan Panev, first secretary of the Sofia City BCP Committee and by Ilcho Dimitrov, minister at the Ministry of Culture, Science, and Education.

Public Care for Children at Risk Said Deficient

AU0912153988 Sofia RABOTNICHESKO DELO in Bulgarian 7 Dec 88 p 6

[BTA-supplied report: "Is the Care Sufficient?"]

[Text] We call them children at medical or social risk, and devote care to improving their state of health and their social situation. However, are we really devoting enough attention to juveniles whose normal development has been disturbed because of illness or for family reasons? This question was examined at the 6 December session of the Operative Bureau of the Interdepartmental Council for Coordination and Methodological Management of Prevention Work under the Chief Prosecutor's Office.

Some of the information presented gives cause for alarm: The number of children in question rose by 4.3 percent in 1986 compared with 1983. Indeed, a lot has been done to improve their conditions of life—monthly supplements of double the normal amount are paid, the limits for monthly assistance are being extended, and certain technical equipment and apparatus are supplied free of charge. However, there is an acute need for the construction of establishments to accommodate over 10,000 children.

The work of the comrades' courts in enterprises, institutions, and organizations was also examined. Here, too, there are two sides to the picture. On the one hand, positive changes have taken place, resulting in an increase of the workers' social activity in combating breaches of the law under conditions of restructuring and self-management. On the other hand, there has been a reduction in the number of both the comrades' courts and the cases dealt with by them, and cooperation with the prosecutor's offices, courts, and organs of the Ministry of Internal Affairs is irregular and inadequate. Bearing in mind the objective reasons for the existing weaknesses, the Interdepartmental Council has decided to put the preparation of a concept on a legal reform and a new organization of prevention work into action.

USSR Measures Will 'Not Diminish' Pact

AU1212163988 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 9 Dec 88 p 6

[Milan Jelinek commentary in the "We Comment" column: "A Gesture, an Example, an Emphasis"]

[Text] On Wednesday [7 December] Mikhail Gorbachev announced from the UN rostrum that during the next 2 years the strength of the Soviet Armed Forces will be reduced by 500,000 men. The Soviet leadership's decision was part of the program of new international relations presented by Mikhail Gorbachev to the world public. It promptly attracted considerable attention, for it is in fact extremely significant and touches on the most burning elementary problem—disarmament; it also concerns the inhabitants of many states on our continent, among them the people in Czechoslovakia as well.

Let us stress that the six tank divisions of the Soviet Army will not only be withdrawn—these military formations will be disbanded, thus substantially limiting the volume of conventional weapons. On the whole, this measure will reduce the Soviet Army's armament by 10,000 tanks, 8,500 artillery systems, and 800 fighter planes. The number of troops and the amount of technology in Soviet detachments stationed on the GDR, Czechoslovak, and Hungarian territories will be reduced by a total of 50,000 men and 5,000 tanks. According to preliminary data from unofficial sources, the Soviet troops withdrawn from our territory will equal about one tank division.

The reaction of our public and the world public to this was overwhelming: welcome.

However, now we can hear from the NATO camp words of appreciation for the Soviet decision, which are intermixed with disparaging objections and doubts; we hear voices saying: all right, but they could have reduced far more.... In reply one could simply ask: What reduction of Soviet troops would the NATO Pact consider sufficient? A 50- or 75-percent reduction, or would the gentlemen perhaps like a round 100 percent on the Soviet side? What must be done to induce the Western partners—NATO Pact members—to take a seat at the same table as the Soviet Union and its socialist allies and (refraining from an exchange of declarative statements) to conduct serious negotiations on how one could speedily start to disarm, and in what stages? The attitude adopted by certain Western politicians (above all by Western generals) resembles an unacceptable bid and counter-bid game: you go on reducing the troops and disarming, and we will go on endlessly making up our minds about whether we should join you. This approach seems to cover the wish to acquire military advantages.

The Soviet measure is a unilateral step, a commitment without preliminary conditions—the USSR is simply determined to turn it into reality within 2 years. However, the disarmament problem cannot be resolved via the principle of one-sidedness. The notion that one side will be disarming, taking off its armor, while the other side retains all its armor and even adds to it; this notion is so naive that it probably makes any comment superfluous. It is clear to any sensible and logically thinking person that disarmament can be finally resolved only on the principle of mutuality, while preserving equal security and equality. The Soviet measure must be understood as a step which opens doors and consolidates trust, as clear and indisputable proof of the Soviet Union and its socialist allies saying: Yes, we do mean it seriously, we want to disarm, and we want to do it together with you.

The Soviet decision (adopted in line with the interests of its allies) leads to yet another consequence, one which wil make an increasingly strong impact during the next 2 years. The main thing is to exclude the possibility of a sudden, unexpected attack by one side against the other. We have here a project to set up a zone of confidence, cooperation, and good-neighborly relations along the line of contact between NATO and Warsaw Pact member states. This significant initiative, presented by CPCZ Central Committee General Secretary Milos Jakes, pursues the same idea as the one which stood (together with other ideas) at the birth of the Soviet decisions: to withdraw offensive military systems from the border separating the two military-political groupings (particularly such components of the Armed Forces as tanks, the artillery, and the offensive tactical air force).

The USSR's unilateral step does not diminish in the least the socialist community's defense ability. Gorbachev declared that the Soviet troops remaining on the territories of European allies after the reduction will be reorganized in order to give them an exclusively defensive structure. They will be capable of intercepting any enemy attack and of providing time for moving up the mechanized reserves. The socialist states consider this situation temporary, expecting it to last just until the conventional disarmament in Europe begins and an agreement is reached with the Western partners on a radical reduction of armed forces and military technology.

Socialist Czechoslovakia firmly supports the idea of the future as presented by the top Soviet representative in the United Nations. It is in line with our own interests as well. The decisions proclaimed by M. Gorbachev are identical with the goals pursued by our foreign policy. We are contributing our share to building our secure European Home—and our significant initiative remains a valid offer.

We are convinced that now, after Mikhail Gorbachev's UN speech, it is essential and high time to start disarming (as in the sphere of nuclear weapons) as well as in the sphere of conventional weapons in Europe.

Gorbachev Speech Called 'Blueprint' of Future

AU0912151988 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 8 Dec 88 p 6

[Milan Jelinek commentary in the "We Comment" column: "Blueprint of a Better World"]

[Text] We are concerned with arranging international relations anew—with setting up a system of coexistence that would respect the interests of all mankind and the lofty humanitarian ideals which are the philosophical, ideological, and cultural riches of our human society. This is the meaning and substance of the message addressed by top USSR representative Mikhail Gorbachev to the world public, to all peoples and states, to their representatives and delegates.

His speech in the United Nations was a programmatic speech; it was both rousing and optimistic in its conviction about the power of common sense, of man's natural ability to transform the world and to change it for the better—not for his personal benefit, but primarily for the benefit of others, of everybody.

There is no problem linked with the interests of all mankind that the speech did not mention. M. Gorbachev saw these problems, and appraised them in terms of their particular features and interconnections. From this, he logically derived the priorities, providing a rationale on why the issues of disarmament, ecology, economic cooperation, and general legal norms are of such paramount importance for the functioning of our human community.

The ability of nations, governments, or political representatives to solve these problems by joint efforts will also provide an answer to the cardinal question of the future: whether our civilization will survive, whether the thread of its development will not be broken. The standpoint maintained by the CPSU and the Soviet state is unambiguous: yes, we really are capable of successfully defending life, of providing a future for mankind, of guaranteeing that debates about the philosophy of history can continue and lead to a final result, which will one day prove whose blueprint of the development of our civilization was wrong, and whose was right.

The Soviet Union is not foisting its views or ideas on others. It demands and proposes only one thing: let us learn to live side by side, to cooperate, to master the art of dialogue—of a civilized discussion which rejects the false thesis that what the other side thinks is always tricky and wrong. The main thing is to come to an understanding on the basic thing—nuclear and conventional disarmament.

Disarmament is a key problem; without resolving it first and foremost, we cannot ponder other problems connected with it, such as ecology or an international economic system, which threaten mankind with a similar catastrophe if it fails to find a way to resolve them.

The USSR always understood disarmament as a comprehensive problem which (naturally) contains a number of issues of varying importance. The greatest danger here is the accumulation of nuclear arsenals. An accord has already been reached here, and it is gratifying that the first step in nuclear disarmament has already been taken—with the USSR-U.S. treaty of Washington 1 year ago. Negotiations are going on, a 50-percent reduction of the Soviet-American nuclear arsenal is currently on the agenda. Still, the destructive force of the conventional weapon systems is similar to the effect of nuclear arms.

In order to enable the USSR and the other socialist states to also get things moving on this issue (as is desirable), Mikhail Gorbachev announced extensive measures in his UN speech: in agreement with his allies (and this also means with us in Czechoslovakia), he is withdrawing a considerable number of troops and military technology from East Europe and central Europe, and from Mongolia. This is a unilateral measure, aimed at giving a life-giving shot to conventional disarmament. We can say: The main aim is to literally force the Western partners before the world public, to stop talking about the need to disarm, about their fears of an accumulation of troops and military technology in Europe, and to start negotiating—negotiating about Europe as our common home.

This act is filled with responsibility for the fate of mankind. The CPSU and the Soviet state are convinced (as are their friends) that foreign policy is not a forum for practicing oratory, or hurling accusations and settling accounts, but a tool to be used for attaining the goals set by this or that state.

If the human community comes to the unanimous view that the need to disarm is its primary task, then something must be done—one must disarm.

If mankind solves the disarmament problem and realizes its ancient dream about a world without threat of war, it will have crossed the fatal threshold. And no doubts will remain that there are and will be no obstacles on the path of its development which cannot be removed by joint effort.

Statement on Gorbachev Speech Said 'Distorted'

LD0912175488 Prague CTK in English 1638 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Prague Dec 9 (CTK)—The Czechoslovak Government delegation led by Prime Minister Ladislav Adamec valued favourably its talks with President Francois Mitterrrand and other French officials in Prague yesterday, Miroslav Pavel told journalists today about yesterday's session of the Czechoslovak Government.

The departmental head at the Czechoslovak Government Presidium Office noted that President Mitterrand and Premier Adamec had heard information about talks

between particular ministers on new subjects of cooperation, for instance in the production of light trucks between the Avia and RVI companies. It will be carried on and will focus on the modernization of production and extension of cooperation on third markets.

French firms will participate in the construciton and modernization of a radio relay line between the Slovak capital, Bratislava, and the East Slovak town of Kosice. French motor works were invited to participate in the use of the building and facilities of the Bratislava automobile works. One of the proposals provides for the establishment of a joint venture which Czechoslovakia would enter with this facility.

Cooperation is also being considered in the nuclear power industry. A favourable attitude was taken to Czechoslovakia's involvement in the Eureka program and talks are being prepared on the possibilities of the purchase of transport planes from france.

The government Presidium approved on Thursday Czechoslovakia's participation in the 1992 world exhibition in Seville, which is to be held within the framework of the celebrations of the 500th anniversary of the discovery of America by Christopher Columbus.

Miroslav Pavel answered questions of Czechoslovak journalists and in this context criticized an Associated Press report which grossly distorted the meaning of the Czechoslovak Government's statement on Mikhail Gorbachev's address in the United Nations.

Czechoslovak Deputy Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Stefan Stastny gave figures on the monetary incomes of the population, which rose by more than 6,000 million crowns during the first three quarters of the year, more than provided for by the plan. This quicker rise is not in harmony with the overall economic results and is a strain on the home market.

Spendings in retail trade exceeded the planned figures by 5,400 million crowns, mainly due to the growing sale of more expensive luxury goods, especially clothing and footwear, and due to purchases by tourists from socialist countries.

A considerable role is also played by unsubstantiated fears of retail price increases in connection with the restructuring of wholesale prices and this is why people are buying goods which they do not need immediately. Savings dropped in comparison whith the plan and with previous years.

The strain on the relation between monetary incomes and market stocks is also aggravated by products which can be sold neither at home nor abroad. The government has approved measures providing for closer links between wages and the overall economic results of enterprises, which will come into effect next January 1. All ministries have been instructed to improve the situation in unfinished production and unmarketable products, which applies not only to consumer goods but also to stocks in major engineering branches.

Aid for Armenian Quake Victims Mounting

LD0912203088 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Czechoslovak citizens and workers' collectives in enterprises, organizations, and institutions are expressing their solidarity with the people of Soviet Armenia. A large number of statements of intention to provide assistance to the people of Armenia are coming in from people all over the country and are an expression of their internationalist feelings and humanitarian approach. Workers of the transit gas pipeline concern are to provide immediate accommodation for some 100-200 people at Czechoslovak accommodation quarters provided for builders on the Progress gas pipeline project. They are to provide 50 fully equipped mobile residential units on loan and are to send groups of experts to help clear up the consequences of the earthquake.

Workers at the CKD-Prague state enterprise, together with Pragoinvest, are expressing their sympathy with the Soviet people in the stricken areas by immediately sending two motorized cranes to clear up the damage and one tram [as heard] to the Soviet Union. This gift, which is meant to make at least a partial contribution to alleviating the material damage, is worth more than Kcs 4 million.

The massive wave of solidarity between our citizens and the victims of the earthquake in Soviet Armenia has been praised by the Central Committee of the Czechoslovak National Front which, in a statement, also reports that together with Czechoslovak public organizations, it is to send humanitarian aid to Armenia, the content of which is the subject of consultation with the Soviet relief coordinating commission. The National Front Central Committee further informs public organizations, institutions, work collectives, and individual citizens that a common fund for humanitarian assistance is being set up. It is National Front Peace and Solidarity Fund account number 1837-021 at the Czechoslovak State Bank, Prague-2. Paying-in slips are designated with the letter "A".

If the need arises for other kinds of assistance—for example medical or skilled teams—the National Front Central Committee will keep the Czechoslovak public informed. The humanitarian assistance will be provided on behalf of the Czechoslovak people.

The National Front Central Committee concludes its statement by thanking all the people and work collectives in our country for their readiness to provide help for our Soviet friends.

Rescue Aircraft Departs

LD1212103888 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1000 GMT 12 Dec 88

[Text] An aircraft carrying Czechoslavak rescue workers took off from Prague yesterday for Armenia to provide relief for the people hit by the destructive earthquake. Among the rescue workers are members of the mine rescue service from Pribram and Kladno, doctors from the Prague emergency service and Kladno hospital, and mountain rescue workers with sniffer dogs used in avalanches. The relief operation for the earthquake-hit Armenian people has been organized by the Czech Ministry of Health and Social Affairs.

Leaders Sign Condolence Book

LD1012140788 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1300 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, expressed deep condolences at the Soviet Embassy in Czechoslovakia today to the fraternal people of the USSR on the tragic consequences of the natural disaster which befell the Soviet transcaucasian republics and took so many human lives and inflicted great material damage.

Signing the condolence book together with Jakes were other members of the Presidium of the party's Central Committee: Ladislav Adamec, Karel Hoffmann, Jozef Lenart, and Miroslav Stepan. Rudolf Rohlicek, member of the Secretariat of the party's Central Committee, also signed the book.

Report of Akhromeyev Resignation Noted

AU0912151488 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 8 Dec 88 p 7

["(zr)"-signed Moscow/New York dispatch: "Marshal Akhromeyev Retires; Remains Adviser to the General Secretary"]

[Text] Marshal Sergey Akhromeyev, chief of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, has retired for reasons of health. This was announced on Wednesday [7 December by Gennadiy Gerasimov, spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The statement made by the Soviet spokesman was carried by the American CNN television network.

Marshal Akhromeyev remains adviser to Mikhail Gorbachev as chairman of the USSR Defense Council.

Trade Protocol With USSR Explained

LD1012223588 Prague CTK in English 1032 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Moscow Dec 10 (CTK correspondent)—Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Minister Jan Sterba and Soviet Minister of External Economic Relations Konstantin Katushev signed here today a protocol on the exchange of goods and payments between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union for 1989.

The document specifies the comprehensive program of long-term economic and scientific-technological cooperation between the two countries up to the year 2000 and at the same time creates the conditions for the application of new forms of cooperation, particularly in the establishment of direct contacts between production and scientific-research organizations and of joint ventures.

The protocol confirms that Czechoslovakia will continue to hold a significant position in the Soviet Union's foreign economic relations and that the Soviet Union will remain Czechoslovakia's main trade partner.

The protocol envisages inter alia considerable volume of mutual deliveries of equipment for the nuclear power industry and for the reconstruction and modernization of industrial facilities in the Soviet Union and Czechoslovakia. Also the two countries' cooperation in the use of the Yamburg natural gas deposit and in the construction of the Yamburg-Western Border of the USSR gas pipe line and the gas manufacturing complex in the Urals will continue.

President Mitterrand Concludes Visit

Talks With Adamec

LD0912000288 Prague CTK in English 2104 GMT 8 Dec 88

[Text] Prague Dec 8 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Premier Ladislav Adamec met with visiting French President Francois Mitterrand for talks attended also by their delegations this evening.

Ladislav Adamec acquainted the French president with the Czechoslovak Government's intentions in implementing economic reform which is to replace the administrative-directive forms of management with economic methods, increase the economic independence of enterprises and create conditions for the development of socialist enterprise.

He noted that the Czechoslovak economy faces major structural changes which will not be possible without substantial use of science and technology and without the development of international cooperation. He pointed out the possibilities of extending Czechoslovak-French relations in this sphere.

Francois Mitterrand was satisfied with his meetings with Czechoslovak representatives. He characterized the political and economic situation in France, which is the fourth largest exporter in the world. He supported the idea of building a common European house. It, however, must be filled with a concrete content and his visit contributes to this, he said.

Both delegations were then informed of the ideas which arose during the talks of French ministers with their Czechoslovak partners in Prague today. They concerned e.g. cooperation in the motor and aircraft industries, in nuclear energy and the possibilities of Czechoslovakia's participation in parts of the Eureka program. In culture, attention was focused on the use of the two countries' art treasures, exchange of television programs and the teaching of French in Czechoslovakia.

The Czechoslovak Government is determined to do everything for the conclusions of these talks to be speedily put into life, Ladislav Adamec pointed out.

Taking part in the talks on the Czechoslovak side were First Deputy Premier Pavel Hrivnak, Deputy Premier Karel Julis, Foreign Minister Jaromir Johanes, Foreign Trade Minister Jan Sterba, Czech Minister of Culture Milan Kymlicka, Czech Minister of Education, Youth and Physical Training Jana Synkova and Czechoslovak Ambassador to France Mecislav Jablonsky.

The French delegation was formed by Foreign Minister Roland Dumas, Minister of Industry and Regional Planning Roger Fauroux, Research and Technology Minister Hubert Curien, Secretary of State attached to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, in charge of International Cultural Relations, Thierry de Beauce and French Ambassador to Czechoslovakia Jacques Humann.

Leaves Prague With Husak

LD0912102988 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1000 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] French President Francois Mitterrand, together with Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak, left Prague by air this morning for Bratislava. Mitterrand will meet the highest representatives of the Slovak Socialist Republic.

After returning to Prague, the two heads of state will hold final talks at Prague Castle. Francois Mitterrand will return to Paris by air in the evening.

Arrives in Bratislava

LD0912144588 Prague CTK in English 1225 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Bratislava Dec 9 (CTK)—French President Francois Mitterrand, currently on a two-day official visit to Czechoslovakia, arrived in the Slovak capital today in the company of President Gustav Husak of Czechoslovakia.

The French president was greeted at the airport by chairman of the Slovak National Council (Parliament) Viliam Salgovic and Slovak Premier Ivan Knotek.

Tours Slovak Capital

LD0912231688 Prague CTK in English 2038 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Bratislava Dec 9 (CTK)—During his visit to the Slovak capital today, French President Francois Mitterrand laid a bouquet of flowers to the memorial to the Slovak national uprising in a ceremony in which he paid tribute to the heroes of the Czechoslovak national liberation struggle.

The French guest, accompanied by Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak, then walked to the historical centre of the city where they were greeted by crowds of its inhabitants.

Later in the day, the two presidents visited Comenius University in Bratislava where they were welcomed by Rector Ladislav Melioris, teachers and students. The rector informed the guest of the history and present of this oldest Slovak university and told him about a scientific conference it is planning for the forthcoming 200th anniversary of the French Revolution.

Francois Mitterrand stressed the role of Jan Amos Komensky (Comenius) in the European cultural heritage. He pointed out the responsibility of youth for the preservation for posterity of all that is useful, mainly peace which was so difficult to achieve. The president then answered questions.

At the end of the visit to the university he was awarded the J.A. Komensky Medal.

Slovak National Council Chairman Viliam Salgovic then gave a dinner in honour of the French guest which was attended by President Husak, Slovak Communist Party First Secretary Ignac Janak and other Czechoslovak officials, the two countries' ambassadors and members of the French delegation.

In the afternoon, French President Mitterrand and his entourage, Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak and other representatives visited the construction site of a forum hotel in which Campenon Bernard Construction (CBC) of Paris are major contractors. The hotel, which is to have the capacity of 450 beds, will be opened next January.

Presidents Mitterrand and Husak later left for Prague.

Meets With Charter 77 Leaders

AU0912131588 Paris AFP in English
1305 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Prague, Dec 9 (AFP)—French President Francois Mitterrand impressed eight Czechoslovak dissident leaders Friday during a breakfast at the French Embassy here, the first such meeting by a foreign head of state or government with the leaders of the country's illegal opposition.

"This visit can be considered a great success," author Vaclav Havel said after the talks, adding that "Mr. Mitterrand was very open about the importance of human rights."

The French leader was unavailable for comment.

Seven of the dissidents—Mr. Havel, Jiri Dienstbier, Ladislav Lis, Petr Uhl, Vaclav Maly, Milos Hajek, and Rudolf Battek—are leaders of the banned Charter 77 human rights group.

Karel Srp, chairman of the outlawed Jazz Section, an independent cultural association, was the eighth member of the opposition group.

Mr. Havel had expressed concern before the arrival of the French president that the visit could be seen as a blessing for Czechoslovakia's Communist leaders.

Looking weary after the meeting, he said he had taken "a tooth brush and a toilet bag" to the meeting in case secret police arrested him again.

Mr. Srp said the meeting had been "fantastic".

"A year ago I was in jail. Today I met the French president," he exclaimed.

However, Mr. Uhl, a Trotskiyist militant and leading member of the Committee for the Defence of Unjustly Persecuted People (VONS), said he and several other dissidents had "rapped French diplomacy for its insufficient defence of human rights."

Mr. Uhl added there was a "duty of public interference" to defend the citizens' rights in accordance with the Helsinki agreements.

On Thursday, the first day of his official two-day visit here, Mr. Mitterrand told guests at a state dinner that France attached great "moral prestige" to basic human rights, and praised the 1968 "Prague Spring" programme of liberal reforms in Czechoslovakia.

The speech was published by most Czechoslovak newspapers at length on Friday, prompting a remark by Mr. Maly that "this is the first time that a positive statement on the Prague Spring has appeared in the official press."

The French president was due to spend most of Friday in Bratislava before returning to Prague in the afternoon and flying back to Paris in the evening.

He will preside at celebrations marking the 40th anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights there on Saturday.

Holds Press Conference

LD0912233088 Prague CTK in English
2122 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Prague Dec 9 (CTK)—"Both days of my visit were full and rich. The talks of my entourage were just as meaningful", President Francois Mitterrand told journalists at a press conference before his departure in Prague today.

He said the talks were dominated by East-West relations, disarmament, the development of thinking, practical reforms of everyday life and all spheres of bilateral relations, including contacts between the two countries' young people and teaching of languages. The talks were influenced by topical developments, primarily the proposals made by Mikhail Gorbachev in New York, the president said.

He appreciated the opportunity to meet Czechoslovak leaders personally, as personal contacts are always important for understanding.

"I met not only the leading representatives but also a certain number of people who are against the system in this country. Thus I can get a more complete idea about people living in this country", the president added.

He stressed that his visit to Czechoslovakia will naturally contribute to rapprochement, to the extension of political, economic and cultural relations, "otherwise it would be sensless".

Replying to the Swiss newspaper "24 HEURES" about human rights the president noted that these problems naturally came up during his talks with Czechoslovak President Gustav Husak and Communist Party General Secretary Milos Jakes.

"Neither of them waited for me to start speaking about the subject. None of us lost the opportunity to stress this question in his own way,...from positions which are probably different. In essence the point at issue is the content of the Helsinki agreements which represent the basis that we must observe and make headway in them, naturally each in his own way".

Speaking about the possibilities of the development of technological cooperation under the Eureka project the president voiced the wish that it extends to all countries which are interested, and also if they have something to offer, the president said and spoke in favour of audiovisual cooperation within this program.

"It is necessary to develop European cooperation where it is possible already now and still better results can be expected thanks to the modern technologies which know no borders, thanks to satellites. We spoke about this and it seemed to me to be very positive", Francois Mitterrand noted.

The president said that Czechoslovak-French economic and cultural cooperation was still on a very low level but the industrialists and experts who accompanied him did a great deal of work. Progress was also made in the discussions concerning the establishment of a French cultural centre in Czechoslovakia and an improvement in the teaching of the French language, he said.

Asked by a British journalist whether he met with Aleksander Dubcek during the visit the president replied that he did not.

In reply to RUDE PRAVO what were the links between the president's statement on Thursday about French-German conciliation as a possible guarantee of peace and security for all, with the development of West German-French cooperation and the formation of a joint military brigade the president said that the liquidation of medium-range missiles, 50-per cent cuts in strategic weapons and the Paris conference on a chemical weapons ban were good, just as Mikhail Gorbachev's proposals in New York. "Despite this, the Soviet Union and the United States each still has more than 12,000 strategic nuclear warheads and France has 300".

"We are ready for France to join any disarmament effort when the big powers have levels comparable to ours. At the moment there is a great imbalance between our forces. Even 50 per cent cuts in strategic weapons mean that the Soviet Union and the USA will still have 6,000 nuclear warheads each. This is a huge number. I believe that we should discuss the problems of armament of these two countries. The moment when France would join has not yet come. We need more signals", Francois Mitterrand stated.

The president described Mikhail Gorbachev's latest initiative presented in New York as excellent and as politically and psychologically decisive. "While we were in doubt when the talks on conventional armament would begin in Vienna, the whole machanism has now been set in motion. The Soviet decision concerning unilateral disarmament is naturally not sufficient for the final targets. But this does not belittle its importance. It is necessary to go even further. I am convinced that the world leaders want to commit themselves in this respect", he stressed.

FRANCE-INTER and ASSOCIATED PRESS correspondents asked at various moments questions concerning the French president's meetings with the signatories of Charter 77 and questions of human rights in Czechoslovakia. Francois Mitterrand replied that he met on Friday morning eight to nine people who were mostly Charter signatories and who, in his words, took ideological and practical positions in defence of human rights.

Commenting on official talks with Czechoslovak representatives about human rights he stressed: "I heard no one to say that the problem had been solved by silence or rejection".

Ends Visit, Departs

LD0912233388 Prague CTK in English 2108 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Prague Dec 9 (CTK)—French President Francois Mitterrand met his Czechoslovak host, President Gustav Husak, at Prague Castle at the end of his two-day official visit this evening.

The two leaders valued positively the course of the visit which gave new impulses for the promotion of Czechoslovak-French cooperation in all spheres. They agreed that its results would be elaborated in detail by the relevant government bodies of the two countries.

Francois Mitterrand thanked for the friendly reception and hospitality he had been given throughout his visit to Czechoslovakia.

Later today, French President Francois Mitterrand left Prague for home. He was seen off by President Gustav Husak and Premier Ladislav Adamec.

Visit Called 'Useful'

LD1112020188 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Vaclav Chadraba commentary]

[Text] During the 70 years of existence of independent Czechoslovakia, we have not welcomed a French president on our soil: a very peculiar fact that surprised Mitterrand, too. With his official 2-day visit he ended one era and laid the foundation for new relations.

His visit to Prague and Bratislava did not come like lighting from a clear sky nor does it signal an immediate turn in the Czechoslovak-French dialogue. Numerous consultations were needed between foreign ministers and other ministers, between diplomats and businessmen, to prepare for the visit, because the invitation had laid in the Elysee Palace for a rather long time. It was necessary for Paris itself to reassess in some respects its policy toward the socialist countries, in which it had a real interest only as a means to contact the Soviet Union.

The author of the new attitudes to the other European countries—as the Paris press frequently calls us—was and is Foreign Minister Dumas. Because of the cabinet changes under Prime Minister Chirac, the realization of some projects was suspended. But with the reelection of

Francois Mitterrand as president, the domestic situation in France has calmed down and it became possible to take new steps in foreign political orientation.

It is interesting how Mitterrand does not like to hear about the new East policy. As recently as yesterday at the news conferece in Prague he reacted rather with displeasure to a question on this, as if he realized that France had overslept and missed the train, which has not only diplomatic but goods cars as well. Besides Dumas, it is the vacuum in economic relations that has pushed the highest French representative closer to the socialist countries.

There is also another matter. Francois Mitterrand likes to appear in the role of coordinator of West Europe, and puts forward his visions of long-range concepts. It is for this reason that he also welcomes the idea of the common European House but asserts that he is in fact the author. Therefore Gorbachev, the builder, must allegedly reckon with Mitterrand, the interior designer. Just remember his words in his interview with Czechoslovak television.

The truth, however, remains that French foreign policy is changing and that France has come up with some stimulating ideas. I have in mind rapproachement among all European states and the Paris conference on chemical weapons; points of contact contained in the proposal put forward by Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee, on the creation of a zone of confidence, cooperation, and good neighborly relations along the line of contact between NATO and the Warsaw Pact; and French thinking about the exclusion of a surprise attack in the same area.

Apart from questions of war and peace, disarmament, the East-West problem, and problems affecting mankind, the French president discussed mutual relations with our highest party and state representatives. The range of issues was enormous. The list of the topics discussed does not say anything about the content of the talks. Francois Mitterrand stressed that the aim of his trip was not to sign joint documents but to get to know each other, to set the main directions of cooperation, and to determine in greater detail specific ways to implement them.

The foundation has been laid. The meeting at the highest level is the best incentive to start building. Both sides agree that the first visit to our country by a French president was necessary and useful, and that this was a step in the right direction.

Jakes, Lenart Receive Poland's Baka
LD0912225688 Prague CTK in English
2004 GMT9 Dec 88

[Text] Prague Dec 9 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Communist Party General Secetary Milos Jakes received here today Polish United Wokers' Party Politburo member and Central Committee secretary Wladyslaw Baka, who is on a short working visit to Czechoslovakia.

Milos Jakes appreciated the high level of relations between the two fraternal parties as well as all-round character of relations between Czechoslovakia and Poland.

He acquainted the guest with the present line of the party's policy in implementing economic reform and changes aimed at the democratization of the political and social life, mainly in connection with the party Central Committee's decision to hold the 18th party congress in 1990.

Wladyslaw Baka explained the policy of the Polish United Workers' Party in implementing the conclusions of the 10th party congress and the program of economic stabilization and the line of national understanding.

Milos Jakes and Wladyslaw Baka expressed the will of the two parties to extend political, economic and scientific-technological cooperation in the interest of speeding up the socio-economic developent in Czechoslovakia and Poland.

The same day, Wladyslaw Baka met with Czechoslovak Communist Party presidium member and Central Committee secretary Jozef Lenart for talks. The two representatives discussed the implementation of the program of economic and scientific-technological cooperation between Czechoslovakia and Poland by the year 2000 as well as proposals for extending mutually advantageous cooperation and specialization. They dealt also with the fulfilment of the conclusions from the meeting at the highest level which took place in Warsaw this year.

The Polish guest met with first deputy premier and chairman of the State Planning Commission Bohumil Urban.

In the evening, Wladyslaw Baka ended his working visit to Czechoslovakia and left for home.

Adamec Confers With Iran's Larijani
LD0912225088 Prague CTK in English
1625 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Prague Dec 9 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Premier Ladislav Adamec received here today visiting Iranian Deputy Foreign Minister Jawad Larijani.

They exchanged views on the possibilities of the development of cooperation, mainly with regard to Iran's needs in the post-war reconstruction of national economy.

Jawad Larijani presented to Ladislav Adamec a personal message from Iranian Premier Mir Hoseyn Musavi.

Vaclavik Travels to Aden for Visit

LD0912213388 Prague CTK in English 1624 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Aden Dec 9 (CTK)—Czechoslovak Defence Minister Army General Milan Vaclavik arrived today for an official friendly visit to the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen at the invitation of his Yemeni counterpart Salih 'Ubayd Ahmad.

In a statement, Milan Vaclavik expressed satisfaction that he has the possibility to visit this country and voiced the wish that the visit help extend all-round relations betwen Czechoslovakia and the People's Democratic Republic of Yemen.

Confers With Top Officials

LD0912203188 Prague CTK in English 1300 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Damascus Dec 9 (CTK Correspondent)—Czechoslovak Defence Minister Army General Milan Vaclavik today ended his five-day official visit to Syria, which took place at the invitation of his Syrian colleague Mustafa Talas.

Minister Vaclavik was acquainted with the military situation in the southern part of the country, and discussed questions of cooperation with his colleague and other Syrian officials.

During the visit minister Vaclavik was received by Syrian Presient Hafiz al-Asad, Vice-President 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Premier Mahmud al-Zu'bi.

Number of Foreign Workers To Decrease

AU1212084588 Prague ZEMEDELSKE NOVINY in Czech 8 Dec 88 p 3

[Interview with Dr Milos Brunclik, head of the Department for the Training and Employment of Foreign Citizens attached to the CSSR Minister of Labor and Social Affairs, by Drahoslav Zeman: "Knowing the Correct Situation"—place and date not given]

[Text] The number of foreign workers [pracovnici] in Czechoslovakia increased considerably at the beginning of the 1980's. Citizens of Vietnam and Cuba, in particular, joined various branches of the national economy. They became an everyday part of our life. It is no secret that a certain part of our public did not receive this favorably. Its rejective attitude increased as a result of the various types of conjecture, which responsible officials disregarded with coy silence instead of putting matters into the right context or confirming them and immediately explaining them.

At its session last July, the CSSR Government adopted a resolution stating that the extent of the employment of foreign citizens should stabilize at the same level as the end of 1987. There will also be some changes regarding the reimbursement of the costs connected with the stay of these workers. We asked Dr Milos Brunclik, head of the Department for the Training and Employment of Foreign Citizens attached to the CSSR Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, to assess the existing situation and the prospects for the future.

[Zeman] How many foreign citizens are currently employed in Czechoslovakia?

[Brunclik] Altogether about 36,900. Of that figure 18,900 are from Vietnam, 10,600 from Cuba, 5,900 from Poland, 900 from Mongolia, and 500 from Hungary. About one-third of them are working in Slovakia. They are here on the basis of international agreements. The purpose is for them to acquire a certain type of qualification or improve their qualifications, and to acquire the necessary skills and knowledge to use at home in developing their countries' economies. We also take in 500-600 students annually, according to the capacity of our schools. Of course that figure does not include workers who are in the CSSR on the basis of trade agreements—for example the Yugoslav or Polish specialists. We also cooperate with the PPR in the sphere of short-term practicing and labor brigades of the Polish youth in Czechoslovak organizations. In 1988 this cooperation involves about 30,000 young people, of which more than 13,000 are in the sector of the CSSR Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

[Zeman] What are the prospects for the future in regard to the number of foreign workers?

[Brunclik] Up until 1990 their number will remain at the 1987 level: about 35,000. After 1990 their number will begin to decrease. Especially the number of the Vietnamese citizens will decrease. Nicaragua has displayed interest in having its workers, especially students, accepted.

[Zeman] Where are they stationed?

[Brunclik] We proceed from the requests of the foreign partners regarding the placement of these workers, and then—in cooperation with ministries—we place them. On 31 December 1987, the greatest number—5,000 of them—were in the East Bohemian region. In Prague there are 2,500 Vietnamese, 1,300 Cubans, and 300 Poles; in the Central Bohemian region there are more than 2,000 Vietnamese, 1,600 Cubans, and 600 Poles.

[Zeman] In which sectors are they mostly employed?

[Brunclik] The greatest number is presently in the textile and engineering branches.

[Zeman] How are they received by our citizens?

[Brunclik] Personally, I think that the public opinion is not in favor of foreign workers staying in Czechoslovakia. Every nation has its own mentality, but I think that

they have to be understood, because most of them are here for 4 years and want to create a homey atmosphere in the facilities in which they live. Among that number of people there always are negative cases which, in a way, generalize people's view of the entire nation.

[Zeman] How about the crime rate among those workers?

[Brunclik] I must stress that all misdemeanors, transgressions, and punishable deeds are being dealt with in accordance with our laws. The Czechoslovak legal code applies to all these workers. On the whole what is involved is only a small number. What is involved are really only individuals, although the public is of a different opinion; it sees things exaggeratedly.

[Zeman] How are the medical checks of these workers being carried out?

[Brunclik] They are examined by our doctors immediately after their arrival. Further measures are being taken on the basis of those medical checks. Should symptoms of more serious illnesses crop up, these workers depart for home. Appropriate measures are the concern of the Ministry of Health; there is no need to be afraid.

[Zeman] There are speculations by the public about the wages of the foreign workers.

[Brunclik] They are paid in accordance with our regulations—the same as our workers are. Organizations pay them according to the work they do. They do not receive foreign currencies or [Tuzex] vouchers. On the contrary, Vietnamese workers must pay a certain amount to their country for the development of its economy.

[Zeman] How satisfied are the organizations employing foreign workers?

[Brunclik] There is great interest in these workers. Our ministry must regulate this interest and cannot accept all requests from appropriate ministries. Requests highly exceed the framework of possibilities. Some organizations have gotten used to having them and are interested in acquiring a labor force from these sources. In this way they are making it easy for themselves instead of creating the necessary conditions for getting and keeping our workers, for example through stabilization measures. Both the Klement Gottwald New Metallurgy Works of Ostrava and the Tatra enterprise of Koprivnice employ more than 500 of these workers. The Svit enterprise of Gottwaldov has more than 600 of them. You should pay a visit to the AZNP enterprise in Mlada Boleslav. There, in the interest of ensuring the production of the new Skoda Favorit passenger car, than 700 of them are employed. In some places, and this is my opinion, they cannot do without them. They contribute to the fulfillment of tasks to such an extent that without them these tasks would not be fulfilled.

[Zeman] Who pays the costs connected with the stay of foreign workers?

[Brunclik] Until now, the costs connected with language courses, accommodation, catering, furnishing of quarters, clothing, and sports and cultural activities have been paid for by organizations. The cost of the transportation, recruitment, and selection of the foreign workers was paid from the state budget. As of next year these costs will be paid by organizations which will employ these workers as well. Students are an exception. There the greater part of the costs is paid from the state budget.

[Zeman] How high are the costs?

[Brunclik] They differ from state to state. The average annual cost to maintain a worker from Vietnam was Kcs72,000, and from Cuba Kcs62,000. Of that amount, employing organizations paid Kcs55,000 and Kcs49,000 respectively. In the coming period the important thing will be whether an organization which is interested in these workers would be willing to outlay more money.

[Zeman] Even so, the state pays a considerable sum. Our citizen will probably ask: What does it bring to our state; are we not on the loser's end?

[Brunclik] It pays. The contribution to the national income is bigger than the expenses.

[Zeman] One cannot say, then, that we are helping someone?

[Brunclik] Many of our citizens are saying that we are helping foreign partners, but the sphere of the education of working youth and the training of skilled workers is only one sphere of the overall cooperation. This influences economic cooperation with these countries. For example, it has influence on the import of raw materials. The relationship with these countries is also a political relationship by which we tellingly demonstrate our affinity for developing countries.

Independent Groups Hold Meeting in Prague

LD1012182788 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1730 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Hundreds of thousands of citizens and visitors to Prague have devoted themselves to Christmas shopping, sightseeing, and visiting the capital's historical monuments. This afternoon some 1,800 people gathered in Skroupovo Square in Prague's third municipal district at a meeting organized by the so-called independent groups. In their speeches and on several banners the initiators of this action took the opportunity of Human Rights Day to draw attention to their existence. The meeting was permitted by the Municipal District National Committee in Prague's third municipal district on the basis of a request by those who convened the meeting.

Organized by 'Dissident' Havel

LD1012214688 Prague International Service in English 1900 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] There was yet another rally here in Prague (?marking) the 40th anniversary of the universal declaration of human rights. It was organized by a leading Czechoslovak dissident, Vaclav Havel, and some of his collaborators who addressed quite thin ranks of those who seem to be allied exclusively by their hatred toward Socialist Czechoslovakia.

The rally, which was permitted by the Czechoslovak authorities, was also attended by a television crew from the American ABC television and some other Western journalists. Obviously it was for them that the stage was set by the dissidents, who in the name of their own interpretation of human rights used big words, which, however, were lacking content.

Rally for Release of Dissident Takes Place

AU1112161388 Paris AFP in English 1547 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Olomouc, Czechoslovakia, Dec 11 (AFP)—Several hundred people, many brandishing crucifixes, called for the release of Roman Catholic dissident Augustin Navratil from a psychiatric internment in a demonstration here on Sunday, an AFP correspondent reported.

Mr. Navratil, 60, is the author of a petition signed by 600,000 people early this year, according to the archdiocese in Prague.

Authorities had him interned at a psychiatric ward at Kromeriz, near this northern town, on October 28.

Despite police calls to disperse as the demonstration had not been authorized, nearly 500 people rallied at the Trinity Column in the town centre, praying and singing hymns and the Czechoslovak national anthem.

Local church sources said police checked identities and briefly detained several demonstrators. The rally ended after 20 minutes.

Human Rights Forum Held in Prague

LD1012183488 Prague CTK in English 1205 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Excerpt] Prague Dec 10 (CTK)—A forum of 700 representatives of Czechoslovak workers, cooperative farmers, intellegentsia, political parties, cultural nationality unions, social organizations and hobby groups started here today marking the 40th anniversary of the universal declaration of human rights and the U.N. Day of Human Rights.

Prominent scientists, artists, sportsmen, members of political parties and non-party members, atheists and believers are among the participants in the forum called by the Czechoslovak National Front Central Committee.

The forum was opened by Czechoslovak National Front Presidium Member Bohuslav Kucera. He said that the wide representation of all the strata of Czechoslovak society qualifies the forum to discuss the problems of human rights and humanitarian cooperation. [passage omitted]

Statement Issued

LD1012184688 Prague CTK in English 1657 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Prague Dec 10 (CTK)—"We declare that we fully support the noble ideas and principles of the universal declaration of human rights", said a statement issued by the participants in the forum of the Czechoslovak public here today.

The universal declaration of human rights as well as the accords that followed it are the result of wide international cooperation. Czechoslovakia is one of the first U.N. member countries to have signed and ratified the international pact on political and civil rights, the international pact on economic, social and cultural rights and other international accords in this sphere.

Czechoslovakia has also actively participated in the Helsinki conference on European security and cooperation and has signed its Final Act. Therefore "we state today that the Czechoslovak Republic, a country with permanent democratic traditions, has contributed to this struggle of democratic mankind", the statement said.

The liquidation of the exploitation of man by man is the basic precondition for ensuring an equal share of human rights for all, without any discrimination, and the development of every individual requires the implementation of civic and political, economic, social and cultural rights in their integrity, the statement said.

"The humanitarian basis of the socialist state itself creates pre-conditions for the assertion of human rights. We are aware, however, that their practical implementation has not always been without problems. Together with all our citizens we want to help ensure that the development of our socialist society give everyone the possibility to fully assert these rights, the statement said.

"We proceed from the principle that human rights can be ensured only in peace.... Without peace it is impossible to assert the basic human right to life nor equal rights of individuals and nations," the statement said stressing full support for the new extensive proposals to improve the international situation and ensure further detente in Europe and the world as submitted by Mikhail Gorbachev at the U.N. General Assembly.

Aware of the ever deepening mutual dependence of the present world "we sincerely avow our support for broad and open cooperation in all spheres including humanitarian issues and all its components such as contacts between people, broader distribution of objective information which helps people determine their stands, approach to cultural and intellectual values including rich international exchange in other spheres such as education, ecumenical contacts, science, sports, etc," the statement said.

It called on all democratic forces in the world "to unite their effort in the struggle against gross and mass violation of human rights accompanying the policy of colonialism, aggression, apartheid and racism."

"In the interest of the further development of democracy, the broadest possible assertion of human rights and solution of humanitarian issues this forum decides to set up the Committee of the Czechoslovak Public for Human Rights and Humanitarian Cooperation," the statement said. It explained that the committee will form another "democratic people's platform for all-round objective evaluation of the existing legal order, its comparison with the adopted international pledges and their implementation in the assertion of the basic rights of man in the socialist society and solution of humanitarian issues".

Chairman Elected

LD1012214588 Prague CTK in English 1812 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Prague [no date as received]—The participants in the forum of the Czechoslovak Public for Human Rights set up the Committee of the Czechoslovak Public for Human Rights and Humanitarian Cooperation today and elected Professor Doctor Zdenek Dienstbier, doctor of sciences, its chairman.

Zdenek Dienstbier is head of the Institute of Nuclear Medicine and Biophysics of the Charles University faculty of medicine.

Other members of the committee include e.g. dean of the Evangelical Theological Faculty in Bratislava Professor Karol Gabris, Slovak actor national artist Ladislav Chudik, Czech writer Vladimir Paral, runner and Olympic medallist Emil Zatopek and many other personalities.

Chairman Interviewed

LD1012215188 Prague CTK in English 1826 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Prague Dec 10 (CTK)—The aim of the Committee of the Czechoslovak Public for Human Rights and Humanitarian Cooperation is to contribute to a maximum extent to the current process of the restructuring and democratization of the Czechoslovak socialist society, the committee chairman Professor Doctor Zdenek Dienstbier told journalists today.

We expect to win broad masses of our public for help in the working out of the program of the committee's activity. Besides issues concerning human rights in the wide sense of the word we want to actively participate in the strengthening of the atmosphere of confidence and cooperation in the world and take part in international events, Zdenek Dienstbier said.

CPCZ Presidium Discusses Upcoming Session

LD0912173888 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1500 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium, in connection with preparations for the 12th session of the Party Central Committee which will take place on 15-16 December, today discussed the draft of the opening speech by Milos Jakes, general secretary of the party Central Committee, and the political-organizational adoption of the conclusions of this session.

It adopted a resolution on annual members' meetings of the party primary organizations, all-plenary meetings, and party conferences prior to the 18th party congress; and the draft timetable and working commissions for the preparation of the 18th party congress. Annual members' meetings of primary organizations will take place in September to November next year; all-plenary meetings, enterprise, works, local, and city conferences will take place after the annual members' meetings of party primary organizations from December 1989 to January 1990. District and borough party conferences will take place on 10-11 February and 17-18 February 1990; regional and city conferences of the party in Prague and Bratislava will take place on 17-18 March 1990. At the end of this year internal party and public discussion will be organized on the drafts of some congress documents.

The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium went on to express deep sympathy for the Soviet people in connection with the tragic consequences of a strong earthquake in the Soviet Transcaucasian republics. At the same time, it appreciated the expressions of solidarity from the collectives of our workers and individual citizens, who spontaneously reacted to this misfortune in an effort to give aid to the stricken areas of the Soviet Union.

The Presidium also concerned itself with the new Soviet initiative which was announced on Wednesday from the platform of the 43d UN General Assembly session by Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee and chairman of the Supreme Soviet Presidium. It welcomed this initiative, praised it highly, and supported it fully. These are important proposals which will undoubtedly contribute to an improvement in the global international situation, in particular in Europe.

The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium also acquainted itself with main tasks of the Federal Assembly and its organs, with the plan for foreign contacts next

year, and with the plan of the main tasks of Communist deputies to the Federal Assembly for next year. It also learned about similar plans of the Czech National Council and the Slovak National Council. It expressed agreement with convening a meeting of the CPCZ and the National Front on 10 January 1989 for the drafting of a new republican constitution. It noted information about stricter penalties for officials who break the law in their dealings with a citizen and who cause him harm.

The Presidium was informed of the results of meetings of a party delegation, headed by Comrade Jozef Lenart, with the leadership of the Spanish Socialist Workers Party in Madrid during his visit to Spain on 13-17 November. The CPCZ Central Committee Presidium also noted information about the participation of a party delegation headed by Comrade Jan Fojtik at the celebrations of the 70th founding anniversary of the Communist Party of Greece on 1-5 December.

Jakes Chairs National Front Presidium Session

LD1212171188 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1500 GMT 12 Dec 88

[Text] Today's National Front Central Committee Presidium session, chaired by Milos Jakes, general secretary of the CPCZ Central Committee and chairman of the National Front Central Committee, expressed its full support for the new Soviet proposals delivered by Mikhail Gorbachev, the supreme representative of the Soviet Union, at the 43d UN General Assembly session. The Presidium termed them another important contribution toward making the international situation healthier, and proof of the continuing efforts of the Soviet Union and other socialist countries to reduce world tension.

The National Front Central Committee Presidium also expressed deep condolences to the Soviet people, families of the deceased, and those affected by the earthquake in Armenia. At the same time the Presidium praised our country's citizens for their help to the people of Armenia, describing it as an expression of genuine solidarity, real humanism, and internationalistic feelings.

Later in the proceedings the Presidium acquainted itself with the course of the forum of the Czechoslovak public on the occasion of the 45th anniversary of the general declaration of human rights and Human Rights Day.

Jakes Speaks to North Bohemia Functionaries

LD1012223688 Prague Domestic Service in Czech 1900 GMT 6 Dec 88

[Text] Milos Jakes, CPCZ Central Committee general secretary, spoke today at the end of his working visit to the north Bohemian region at a regional aktiv of party functionaries and senior economic staff in Usti nad Labem.

He expressed appreciation for the fact that in the course of his visit he was able to meet people who spoke critically but optimistically, with faith in the fulfillment of the planned tasks. He stressed the importance of the region as a part of the fuel-energy base of the national economy and the chemical industry. He thanked all those who are participating in fulfilling the tasks in these important sectors. The goal today is not, however, to mine more and more coal, to generate more and more electricity, Comrade MIlos Jakes went on to say, but to conserve energy and materials. Scientific-technical development and the innovation of products have to come to terms with this. This is not being done sufficiently, Comrade Milos Jakes noted and added that not only the scientific-research base but also the creative thinking of workers and technicians must play a far greater role in this. He stressed the importance of perfecting products so that they can stand up to international competition. This is also the sense of structural changes in our economy, the restructuring of wholesale prices.

As Comrade Milos Jakes said, it will be necessary to further strengthen order and discipline, to demand the fulfillment of duties from everyone, to fight against anonymity on all fronts—because behind specific shortcomings there are specific people. Communists, above all, have to head these efforts. The party has to get back its fighting spirit, its intolerence toward shortcomings and disorder. The activity and quality of its membership must be increased; new forms of work must be found. In implementing restructuring in our society, the party must be firm and united; it must be able to win people over to its policy.

Comrade Milos Jakes stressed the need for a greater social focus in the economy, including the solution of the housing problem, transportation, and health care. In this connection he also spoke about ecological tasks, particularly in the north Bohemian region.

He also recalled the forthcoming session of the CPCZ Central Committee, which intends to critically assess the progress in fulfilling the tasks of economic development and to outline new tasks to restructure the economic mechanism.

Concluding his address at the regional aktiv of party functionaries and senior economic staff in Usti nad Labem, Comrade Milos Jakes expressed confidence that an important role in restructuring would also be played by communists and other workers of the north Bohemian Region.

Socialist Academy Elects New Leadership

AU0212114588 Bratislava PRAVDA in Slovak 28 Nov 88

[CTK report: "Fourth Congress of CSSR Socialist Academy Convenes; Helping to Create an Atmosphere That Would Stimulate the Working Man's Initiative and Creativity; Joint Delegation of CPCZ and CSSR National Front Central Committees Led by Comrade Jan Fojtik, Who Also Spoke in the Discussion; Report on the Organization's Activity and Further Tasks Presented by Milan Matous"]

[Excerpt] Prague—The Fourth Congress of the CSSR Socialist Academy (SAK) was held in the Community House in Prague on Saturday and Sunday [26 and 27 November respectively]. [passage omitted]

The report of the mandate commission stated (inter alia) that the CSSR Socialist Academy currently has 41,250 members, represented at the congress by 392 delegates with voting rights; 344 of them have a university-level education.

During the 2 days of the congress, a total of 31 delegates and guests spoke in the discussion, which became the basis for further expanding and qualitatively improving the academy's activities during the coming period. [passage omitted]

On Sunday [27 November] the congress participants were briefed on the results of the first session of the CSSR SAK Central Committee, which was elected toward the end of the first day of the congress. The CSSR SAK Central Committee has 113 members and 21 candidate members. Milan Matous, corresponding member of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences (CSAV), was elected chairman of the CSSR SAK Central Committee; Jozef Bobok, corresponding member of the Slovak Academy of Sciences (SAV), Alois Gros, Jaroslav Kase, and Jozef Kosnar were elected vice chairmen; and Jozef Popelka became leading secretary of this body. [passage omitted]

Gabcikovo Power Project Discussed

AU0612115988 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 2 Dec 88 p 1

[CTK report: "Control Consultations in Gabcikovo; Decisive Stage in the Construction of Danube Hydroelectric Power Project"]

[Excerpts] Gabcikovo—Consultations on the tasks of the Gabcikovo-Nagymaros Danube project took place at a control conference of investors and suppliers involved in the project. Meetings took place with Ivan Knotek, CPCZ Central Committee Presidium member and Slovak SR premier, and Federal and Slovak SR Government ministers.

It was stressed during the consultations that only a prompt accomplishment of tasks set for this year—the year when the project is at a decisive stage—will make it possible to adhere to and even to shorten the deadlines set by the agreement with our Hungarian partners. The builders have fulfilled 92 percent of the planned construction work for the 10 months of this year. This would undoubtedly represent a good result were it not for the fact that they are behind in the final preparations for handing over eight sections of the Gabcikovo cascade. [passage omitted]

Attention was also devoted to resolving the environmental impact of the project. The new ecological measures included in the project currently amount to approximately 25 percent of the total costs.

During the discussion the participants in the conference stated that the delays in delivery are creating undesirable stocks of materials and are the cause of idle time in construction work, and therefore in assembly operations as well. Despite these shortcomings, they said, the shortfalls can be eliminated. [passage omitted]

Ivan Knotek voiced the conviction that (as stated by the authoritative staff) appropriate conditions for the working people would be established at the present decisive stage of construction. He pointed out that the project is extremely important from the statewide viewpoint, and that all the cooperating partners should bear this in mind. It is particularly desirable to improve contractual discipline, and the coordination of all procedures must be binding for everybody.

Ivan Knotek also spoke of the need to consider all ecological aspects so that no striking changes would take place in the Danube basin (compared with the present situation). At the same time he condemned the demagogic interpretation of these issues by certain adversaries, and their misuse for political purposes.

Coal, Gas Stocks for Winter Deemed 'Favorable'

AU0912184788 Prague RUDE PRAVO in Czech 5 Dec 88 p 1

[Editorial: "Energy Sector Before Winter"]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] Deliveries of coal to the energy-generating sector prior to this year's winter have exceeded all records. In the power engineering industry alone, stockpiles of brown coal exceed 5 million metric tons and stockpiles of bituminous coal exceed 1.7 million metric tons. The rest of the industry has roughly 4.5 million metric tonnes of coal at its disposal. [passage omitted]

The state of natural gas stocks in underground reservoirs is favorable. However, stress has to be put on the prompt availability of all resources and transportation capacities. As in all previous years as well as this year, all large-scale consumers must create conditions for smooth production in their enterprises. This also needs to be done in case rationing should be necessary because of long periods of extreme cold. [passage omitted]

Defense Committee Meets on CSCE Process

LD0912165988 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1403 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The National Defense Committee of the GDR People's Chamber met today under the leadership of its chairman Deputy Wolfgang Herger. In the consultations, State Secretary Dr Herbert Krolikowski, the first deputy foreign minister, gave a briefing on the state of preparations for new disarmament negotiations within the framework of the CSCE process. He stressed that the measures announced by Mikhail Gorbachev for a unilateral reduction of Soviet Armed Forces and conventional armaments have great significance and are of great value for the efforts of the Warsaw Pact states to achieve a mandate at the Vienna CSCE meeting for negotiations on conventional disarmament from the Atlantic to the Urals.

This step was in line with the unanimous assessment of the Warsaw Pact states that after the start was made on nuclear disarmament with the INF Treaty, a reduction of conventional military potential became a key element in the further disarmament process in the shaping of European security. Comprehensive and intensive preparations were made for forthcoming negotiations within the framework of the Warsaw Pact. It was now a matter of concluding the Vienna CSCE meeting as quickly as possible with a substantial and balanced final document so that negotiations between the 23 member states of the Warsaw Pact and NATO on conventional disarmament in Europe from the Atlantic to the Urals and negotiations by all 35 CSCE states on new far-reaching confidence- and security-building measure could begin.

Krolikowski stressed that the GDR would continue in the future to promote the forthcoming negotiations through the further unfolding of its initiatives for a nuclear weapons-free corridor, a chemical weapons-free zone, and a zone of confidence and security in central Europe.

On behalf of the committee, Chairman Wolfgang Herger welcomed the latest initiatives of the USSR at the United nations. He said that these proposals, coordinated with the GDR, are in the interests of mankind and are in line with our striving not to allow any delay in the disarmament process and to establish the military-strategic balance at ever lower levels. Herger assessed the steadfast efforts of the GDR, at the side of the USSR and the other Warsaw Pact states, for the strengthening and protection of socialism as an expression of its policy aimed at peace, detente and disarmament. This was also its special responsibility, so that war will never again emanate from German soil, rather, only peace.

The agenda of the committee meeting also included a discussion of the draft laws on the 1989 economic plan and state budget plan. The deputies endorsed the drafts.

SFRY's Dizdarevic Continues Official Visit

Toasts Honecker

AU1212111188 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 8 Dec 88 p 3

[Toast proposed by Raif Dizdarevic, chairman of the SFRY Presidium, at a dinner given in his honor by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee, in Berlin on 7 December: "Our Cooperation is Fruitful and Comprehensive"]

[Text] Esteemed Comrade Honecker, dear friends:

I would like to express my cordial thanks for the nice words of welcome. I thank you on behalf of us all for your hospitality and the friendly atmosphere by which we have been surrounded from the the very first moment. This will certainly always remind us of this visit.

I have to convey to you cordial greetings from the SFRY Presidium and the best wishes from our country's peoples and nationalities for further success, luck, and well-being.

Because of its extraordinary businesslike character and the subsequent good results, we remember your latest visit to the SFRY, Comrade Honecker. By the way, you have always been our dear guest and respected partner in talks. Therefore, the continuity of meetings and political dialogue—including my current visit to the GDR—confirm the high degree in our relations, which are penetrated by sincere friendship, similar opinions, and understanding. The principles you established in your talks with President Tito have been an irreplaceable basis for their continuous and stable development.

Our Countries' Views Are Related or Identical

This is why our cooperation today is both fruitful as well as comprehensive and wide. Proof of this can be seen in numerous links between our social and political organizations, parliaments, cities, economies, cultural, and scientific institutions. The results prove that much has been achieved, but they also point to the conclusion that, by mutual efforts, much more can be achieved still. What I particularly have in mind in this context is economic cooperation. In its form and content it is both dynamic and comprehensive and constitutes one of the most important spheres of our overall relations. However, this is a field in which one must never be content with what has been achieved, and this is why it is our permanent duty to seek new forms of an even more modern and immediate connection between our economic subjects.

With satisfaction I could repeatedly note in our talks that our views and ideas on bilateral cooperation and also on a wider level are related or even identical. On this occasion, too, I would like to stress how highly we

appreciate your personal contribution, Comrade Honecker, to the successful development of overall cooperation between our two countries.

As you certainly know, people in the SFRY are following with great interest the socioeconomic development in the GDR. The significant achievements you have made in building socialism, especially in economic and social spheres, have our attention and respect. I sincerely wish you new successes, and this is why I am looking forward to my visit to Potsdam tomorrow and also to the opportunity to familiarize myself with some of your achievements and concerns.

Let us now turn to the SFRY. On the road of development the SFRY has reached a phase in which many questions require new answers and new solutions. You know and you were able to convince yourself that in a relatively short period of time, and despite the difficult legacy of the past, we could implement profound social, economic, and cultural restructuring. In the course of the continual and dynamic development, problems have come up which we are facing now. This is why we opted for rigorous reforms, which are to guarantee a way out of these difficulties. I am convinced that the reform of the economic system, which has already been initiated, will open up new possibilities for even closer economic cooperation with the GDR, our time-tested and important partner.

All this—friendly relations and successful cooperation—are vital interests of the peoples of our two countries. At the same time, we do not forget that they have always constituted a contribution to developing relations in Europe and have always served the real need to expand cooperation among all European countries.

Looking for New Ways of Dialogue for All of Europe

Dear friends, today we can say with certainty that our continent Europe has just entered a period of expanding cooperation. Contacts are being strengthened and one is looking for new ways and contents of all-European dialogue. Mutual understanding is increasing and overall relations on the continent are being promoted. What is necessary is that the European countries come together more closely, based on increasing knowledge about the fateful links between and long-term real unity of European interest. The process of security and cooperation in Europe itself has been the result of such an awareness on the part of European states. Therefore, it is one of the essential factors of cohesion and an important instrument to preserve pluralism in Europe and the common fate. Maintaining and strengthening this process is not only in the vital interest of all states involved, but also in the interest of the entire world. I feel that, therefore, I also have to stress the importance of the GDR, whose contribution to the policy of dialogue, cooperation, and to the positive development in Europe we are following with attention and value very highly. In this connection, we are particularly observing your relations with the FRG, which are extraordinarily important for all-European cooperation.

Not only as a country that belongs to the group of neutral and nonaligned states, but also as a country with an international policy that has always been aimed at cooperation with all those who are striving for coexistence in the stable and secure European home that is open to all without distinction, we are, therefore, very much interested in the successful conclusion of the Vienna follow-up meeting.

Detente in the relations between the USSR and the United States, their dialogue and disarmament negotiations, are certainly of great importance to the creation of a new climate in Europe and in the world. We welcome their dialogue as a factor that is very significant for worldwide relations, for whose maintenance they also have the greatest responsibility from an objective point of view. However, detente can be reliable and lasting only if it reflects the interests of all factors of international relations.

Security in Europe and in the world cannot generally be permanent and complete without the participation of all parties involved and it cannot be that, either, if it is not expanded to all areas of international relations.

Nonaligned Countries for a World of Peace and Development

On behalf of nonaligned Yugoslavia, I would also like to refer to the more and more visible coincidence of the interests of the European countries and the Nonaligned Movement. For the 27 years of its existence, the movement, which is itself founded on the pluralism of internal state systems, cultures, civilizations, and developments of the countries, has been struggling against making ideologies and artificially created barriers the causes of divisions and confrontations. It is its goal that we all—with our differences and different views—create a world of peace, general security, equal cooperation, and development. As you know, the Nonaligned Movement feels it necessary to restructure itself in view of the challenges created by the new processes and dynamic changes in the world. In this, the nonaligned countries do not renounce their historical roots, principles, and goals of their work, but, on the contrary, they wish that, under new conditions, the movement will become a factor with even greater influence in the shaping of stable international relations.

When talking about the stability of relations, we proceed from the premise that this can be achieved only if the positive changes in all fields of relations and the development in the world start to yield results. This is the permanent guideline of the movement and the sense of all its activities. It is logical that the ever greater discrepancy in the economic, financial, and technological

spheres makes the development problems the main concern of the Nonaligned Movement and the developing countries. One must not forget, that time is working against us all in this respect. The more the opening up of promising prospects for growth and economic development of the South is being delayed, the less the North, now in the grip of the process of detente, can count on the security and stability for which we are all striving. The world is a unit. Peace is indivisible and development is its basic preconditions. In the long run, one cannot exist without the other.

A Contribution To Reaching Common Goals

I once again thank you, Comrade Honecker, and your associates for your hospitality. I sincerely believe that this meeting, which took place in such a friendly atmosphere, will serve to reach all similar and common goals, about which we concurrently noted that they correspond to our mutual interests and to the far broader interests of our world today.

I raise my glass to your health, Comrade Honecker, to the health of all friends present here;

To the flourishing of the GDR and the happiness of its people;

And to the friendship and even more comprehensive cooperation of our two countries.

Talks With Honecker End

LD0912152288 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1213 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The heads of state of the GDR and the SFRY, Erich Honecker and Raif Dizdarevic, successfully completed their official talks today. The main subject of the talks was the current international situation. In their exchange of views, both politicians noted that there were signs of encouraging changes in international relations, that tensions and confrontation are lessening. Although the situation continues to be comnplicated, a change for the better is becoming apparent.

The two statesmen concurred that the proposals and initiatives for a unilateral reduction tabled by Mikhail Gorbachev at the 43d United Nations General Assembly are of historic importance for the further development of the peaceful coexistence of the peoples of Europe and the world. The conviction was expressed that they will strengthen—in every respect—the process of disarmament that had been set in motion.

Erich Honecker expressed his esteem for the role played by the SFRY in the Nonaligned Movement and wished the 9th summit meeting of the nonaligned states in Belgrade next year much success.

At the conclusion of their talks, Erich Honecker and Raif Dizdarevic said they were sure that their exchange of opinions and experience and the results achieved will contribute to further shaping the all-around cooperation between their parties, states, and peoples and thus also to the consolidation of peace and to the strengthening of socialism.

Signs Cooperation Agreement

LD0912153388 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1315 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—The long-term progam on economic, scientific, and technical cooperation until the year 2000 signed by Erich Honecker and Raif Dizdarevic heralds far-reaching measures to deepen economic cooperation between the two countries. With its fulfillment, the friendly relations between the GDR and the SFRY will become even closer. Both countries are led, it says in the program, by efforts to consolidate friendship and cooperation between nations on the basis of the principles of equality, independence, and mutual advantage.

Long-term industrial collaboration, specialization, and cooperation are to be extended more effectively in selected areas by united efforts as a significant prerequisite for the development of mutual trade.

The GDR and the SFRY have agreed, in the interests of accelerating the process of intensifying production, to expand cooperation, especially in machine-building, electrical engineering and electronics. With this, provisions will be created to ensure a continual development in mutual trade in future 5-year plans. The two counries will concentrate on the introduction and wide application of high technologies such as microelectronics, laser technology, automation, and biotechnology. The program focuses on cooperation above all in equipment for open-cast mining, railcars, ships and ship fittings, cement, rolling mill equipment, machine tools, as well as machines for light industry and the food industry, microelectronics, automation, measurement and control technology, optoelectronic communications systems, and consumer technology. At the same the two countries will act together in the supply and satisfaction of the needs of selected important commodities and materials.

The main emphasis is on continued and expanded cooperation on the basis of existing long-term general treaties, in particular for aluminum, zinc, copper, and textile cellulose, the intensification of cooperation in the joint production of titanium oxide, and on the development of equipment and efficient processes for the optimum processing and substitution of raw materials.

The joint Committee for Economic and Scientific-Technical Cooperation Between the GDR and the SFRY has been charged with organizing the implementation of this program.

The agreement between the GDR Government and the SFRY Federal Executive Council on cooperation in information is to serve the promotion of cooperation between state institutions and social organizations in the sphere of information and between the mass media of the two countries, and will aim to deepen friendship and the process of improved acquaintance and understanding between the peoples of the GDR and SFRY.

Ends Visit, Leaves for Home

LD0912155388 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1359 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—Raif Dizdarevic, president of the SFRY Presidency, ended his 3-day official visit to the GDR this afternoon and left for home. He was given a fraternal send-off at Berlin-Schoenefeld airport by Erich Honecker, general secretary of the SED Central Committee and chairman of the GDR Council of State. There was a military ceremony in honor of the Yugoslavian head of state. Other members of the GDR party and state leadership were present at the departure.

Fischer, SFRY's Loncar Discuss Cooperation

LD0912172788 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 1332 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Berlin (ADN)—GDR Foreign Minister Oskar Fischer and Budimir Loncar SFRY federal secretary for foreign affairs, today discussed aspects of cooperation between the GDR and Yugoslavia. They emphasized the wish for the steady continuation of the high-level political dialogue between the two sides, and pa.d great attention to current international developments. Oskar Fischer reaffirmed the GDR'S support for the Soviet Union's prior disarmament concessions explained at the United Nations by Mikhail Gorbachev. The ministers said they are convinced that they would make excellent starting conditions possible for the negotiations to be agreed by the Vienna CSCE review meeting on conventional disarmament and on reaching confidence-building and security measures.

Oskar Fischer and Budimir Loncar expressed strong support for a successful end to the Vienna review meeting. Rapid success is possible if all sides approach each other with a positive sense of what if feasible. The two ministers stressed the importance of the international conference for reaffirming the 1925 Geneva Protocol, which prohibits the use of biological and chemical weapons in war, convened for early January 1989 in Paris. There was also an exchange of views on the Palestine question, which is on the agenda of the 43d UN General Assembly. Budimir Loncar spoke about the activities of the Nonaligned Movement states in preparation for the ninth summit conference.

Budimir Loncar expressed satisfaction at the content and constructive course of the Berlin talks.

Protocol Signed on Goods Exchange With SFRY

AU1012174088 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 6 Dec 88 p 7

[Text] East Berlin (ADN)— The protocol on the exchange of goods and services between the GDR and SFRY in 1989 was signed by Dietrich Lemke, deputy minister for foreign trade, and Djordje Hadzi Mihajlovic, deputy federal secretary for foreign trade, in Berlin. It is based on the long-term trade agreement for the 1986 to 1990 period. Among other things, the GDR will supply machine tools, textile machines, equipment for open-cast mining, printing machinery, electronic and electrotechnical products, chemical products, and fertilizers. Imports from the SFRY will include different types of machine tools, tools, electric and electronic products, aluminium, zinc, copper, cellulose, and consumer goods.

Reportage on PPR's Rakowski Visit Continues

Stoph Toasts Rakowski

AU0912175588 East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German 6 Dec 88 p 3

[Toast proposed by Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers, at a dinner given in honor of Mieczyslaw Rakowski, chairman of the PPR Council of Ministers, in Berlin on 5 December: "With Joint Forces on the Path of Socialism"]

[Text] Dear Comrade Rakowski, dear Polish friends and Comrades:

Dear Comrade Rakowski, please allow me once more to express satisfaction and pleasure at your visit to the GDR. We welcome you and your entrourage as good friends, as our neighbor and ally, to whom the GDR is linked through traditional relations of diverse cooperation and the joint struggle for socialism and peace in the world.

Today's meeting is continuing the tried and tested practice of regular meetings between the two states and peoples.

The relations which have grown over the past 4 decades between the SED and PZPR, and which are based on the noble ideals of socialism and concurring basic interests and goals in shaping the new social order, are also reflected in this.

Dear Comrade Rakowski, with this comradely exchange of views, we have affirmed the joint will to further steadily strengthen the unshakable alliance between the socialist neighbor states as a lasting element in the postwar European order, and as as a stable factor of security and peace.

Cooperation Is Being Enriched by New Forms and Content

We consider this an important contribution to strengthening the standing of socialism in our countries, and to the unity and cohesion among the socialist community of states.

We can rightly claim that our relations have reached a high level and are steadily developing to our mutual advantage. Moreover, during recent years our relations have been enriched by new forms and content which continue to mark the historical new relations between our peoples. There is no doubt that this is primarily the achievement of our Marxist-Leninist parties. Their cooperation, which is characterized by trust and mutual understanding, has steadily provided decisive impulses for the further shaping of relations.

The children and youth exchange scheme, initiated 6 years ago by leading representatives of our parties and states, in which over 1.8 million children and young people from both sides of the Oder-Neisse peace border have already participated bears impressive testimony to this. Time and again, it has proven to be an impressive manifestation of friendship among peoples.

Truly historic significance is to be accorded to the agreement on the friendship program between the youth of the GDR and PPR, which Erich Honecker and Wojciech Jaruzelski signed only a few months ago on the occasion of the fourth friendship meeting of the youth of the two countries in Wroclaw.

We are convinced that the youth of our states will do everything possible to breath life into this significant friendship program, in order to further expand and strengthen the building of friendship and cooperation. They can always—I think I am entitled to say this—rely on the full support of our governments.

The race against time and the necessity of further strengthening the superiority of the socialist order of society in all areas requires that there be more dynamism for cooperation between our peoples and states in all spheres, in order to further purposefully raise its efficiency and quality.

Prospects for a World Without Nuclear Threat Have Improved

For this reason, during our talks we have accorded central importance to the expansion of economic cooperation, to the exchange of views on the possibilities of closer collaboration in the development and application of key technologies and the more efficient joint utilization of the results obtained from scientific-technological progress for the comprehensive intensification of the national economies in both countries. We have drawn up a positive balance sheet of the implementation of the "Long-Term Program of the Development of Cooperation in the Spheres of Science, Technology, and Production Through the Year 2000." At the same time, we are in agreement that further reserves are still to be tapped.

Dear Comrades! Our meeting is taking place at the end of a year which has brought encouraging progress for lasting peace and cooperation based on mutual respect among all nations on our planet, which is so threatened. Owing to the constructive and flexible peace policy of the socialist states, in particular the initiative of the Soviet Union, through the commitment of a broad world public, as well as through the realism of leading Western politicians, the prospects for a world without nuclear weapons have increased. A change for the better is emerging in international relations. That has been clearly proved by the elimination of the Soviet and U.S. intermediate- and shorter-range missiles.

The contractually agreed upon elimination of an entire category of the most modern weapons is historically unique and has given a strong impetus to mankind's struggle for a nuclear-weapon free future.

We are aware that disarmament is still a delicate young plant which needs to be cultivated intensively by all men of good will, to allow it to grow up to become a strong tree. The Warsaw Pact countries, including the GDR and the People's Republic of Poland, submitted extremely relevant and realistic proposals in 1988, to create a favorable climate in this respect.

Halving the strategic offensive weapons of the USSR and the U.S. while strictly adhering to the ABM Treaty, is the most important thing. No less necessary is the graduai discontinuation of nuclear weapons tests, a worldwide ban on chemical weapons and tactical nuclear weapons, as well as the beginning of a reduction in armed forces and conventional armaments from the Atlantic to the Urals. With our proposals, we ask no more of the other side than we ourselves are ready to give. This holds true for the extent and strict verification of arms reductions. That is the secret of the strong impact of socialist peace policy, which is being backed by an increasingly large number of people. This should also be noted by those who still believe that they can secure their positions by modernizing their weapons and by nuclear deterrence.

Already now the price that mankind must pay for such outdated thinking is too high. Therefore, it is no coincidence that the idea to create peace not by confrontation but by cooperation, and to replace risky deterrence by a partnership of security and a community based on common responsibility, is being supported by an increasing number of people precisely in Europe. The sad experience of two world wars, as well as the highest concentration of forces and arms have made people here particularly sensitive to the danger of nuclear annihilation. The GDR derives special responsibility for peace

and disarmament from the fact that, in the past, considerable suffering—originating from German territory—was inflicted on other nations, as well as from its situation on the border between the world's most powerful military coalitions.

Support for Wojciech Jaruzelski's Disarmament Proposal

It considers it its duty to promote the disarmament which has been started by its own initiatives, and by trusting and businesslike cooperation with the Western countries. The removal of nuclear and chemical weapons from Central Europe, as suggested by the GDR and the CSSR, as well as the project suggested by the SED and the SPD to create a zone of confidence and security in central Europe are highly suitable for reducing military confrontation in this region, reducing the offensive potential, and accelerating the geographical separation of the Warsaw Pact's and NATO's military capabilities. In this connection, we fully support the proposal submitted by Comrade Wojciech Jaruzelski on reducing armaments and enhancing confidence in Central Europe.

With its policy of dialogue, cooperation, and confidence-building, the GDR has proved to be a reliable and predictable partner in efforts for a peaceful future of mankind. We consider the Helsinki Final Act to be a solid foundation for the common European home that we want to set up, in which all residents live side by side in security and on the basis of equality, and cooperate on the basis of confidence.

The GDR continues to attach considerable importance to the further strengthening of socialism and to the deepening of cooperation within the Warsaw Pact and CEMA, as has been done in the past. Besides pursuing the well-tried forms of political and economic cooperation, we are in favor of embarking on new, effective roads wherever necessary.

We consider coordinating the economic plans for the period 1991 through 1995 to be an essential prerequisite for this.

Dear Comrades and friends!
Our party and all the working people in our country have always observed with sympathy and understanding the considerable efforts that the Polish communists, allied with all the patriotic forces in the country, have made to further build socialism in their country under Poland's special national conditions. We highly respect the impressive achievements attained by the Polish fraternal people during more than 40 years of the worker-peasant power.

These achievements cannot be denied by anybody. Much rather, it has turned out that just as on German soil, socialism is also irrevocable in our eastern neighbor's country. Dear Polish friends, you can continue to rely on our firm affection and solidarity. We wholeheartedly wish you much success in resolving the ambitious tasks that you have set yourselves for the further implementation of the resolutions adopted by the 10th PZPR Congress.

Dear friends! In implementing the resolutions adopted at the 11th party congress, our party continues to shape the developed socialist society in the GDR. It is heading for the 12th party congress, which has been convened for May 1990, with major initiatives and considerable optimism.

Owing to the diligent work of all the working people, a successful balance of what has been achieved to date could be struck at the Seventh SED Central Committee Meeting. At the same time, significant tasks were decided upon; tasks that are aimed at the continuation of the well-tried course of the unity of economic and social policy. In the future we will also provide answers to the new questions posed by life, and will try to find solutions that take into account the current requirements and specific conditions in our country. In doing so, we are making use of the experiences of the fraternal countries.

Dear Comrades and friends! Together we will commemorate next year the 45th anniversary of Poland's rebirth, and the 40th anniversary of the founding of the GDR.

Germans and Poles Have Entered Into a Firm Alliance of Friendship

We will once again document before all the world that Germans and Poles on both sides of the Oder-Neisse border have entered into a firm alliance of friendship for all time, and together have followed the road of socialism. Let us continue jointly to do everything in our power—on the basis of Marxism-Leninism, and based on the unswerving alliance with the USSR and the other socialist fraternal countries—to intensify and deepen our cooperation for strengthening socialism and preserving peace in the world.

Let us raise our glasses and drink—to the firm combat alliance between the SED and the PZPR, and their leading representatives, Comrades Erich Honecker and Wojciech Jaruzelski;—to the friendship and cooperation between our states and peoples;—to our common alliance with the USSR and the other socialist fraternal states;—to the success of our persistent struggle for peace and social progress in the world;— to your health, dear Comrade Rakowski, and to the health of the Polish comrades and friends who are present here!

Comparisons of Visit Press Release

NEUES DEUTSCHLAND Version

East Berlin NEUES DEUTSCHLAND in German on 6 December on page 6, under the headline "On the Working Visit of the PPR Premier to the GDR; Joint Press

Release," carries the press release on the meeting between Mieczyslaw Rakowski, chairman of the PPR Council of Ministers, and Willi Stoph, chairman of the GDR Council of Ministers. The NEUES DEUTSCHLAND report has been compared with the ADN International Service version published in the 9 December East Europe DAILY REPORT, page 19, under the headline "Press Release on PPR's Rakowski's Visit" revealing the following variations:

Column two, paragraph one, sentence one reads in NEUES DEUTSCHLAND: ...[Text] At the invitation... (deleting ADN introductory graf)

Same column, paragraph six, sentence two reads: ...the application of key technologies, it has... (rewording)

Page 20, column one, paragraph one, first sentence reads: ...life, are indispensable. [new graf]

I. [subtitle]

Willi Stoph and... (supplying subtitle)

Same paragraph, sentences five through seven read: ...great dynamism. The 1986-90 long-term agreement has been exceeded during the first 3 years. The increase in... (rewording, changing dates)

Same paragraph, penultimate to last sentence reads: ...to 1985. This good development will be... (rewording)

Same column, paragraph two, sentences two to three read: ...science and technology to be exhausted and for the reliable fulfillment of the relevant agreements between ministries, economic management bodies, and combines. The two premiers... (rewording)

Same column, paragraph five, sentence one reads: ...and Wojciech Jaruzelski during their meeting on 24 June 1988... (rewording)

Column two, third full paragraph, last sentence, to graf two sentence one read: ...their partner's interests. [new graf]

II. [subtitle]

Willi Stoph and... (supplying subtitle)

Same column, fifth full paragraph, last sentence reads: ...continue promoting the process of disarmament and detente with their own... (rewording)

TRYBUNA LUDU Version

Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish on 6 December on page 7 carries the GDR-Polish press communique, attributed to PAP Berlin and headlined "Joint Press Communique," adopted following the visit to East Berlin by PPR Premier Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski on 5 December. The TRYBUNA LUDU report has been compared with the ADN International Service version published in the 9 December East Europe DAILY REPORT, page 19, revealing the following variations:

Column two, paragraph three, sentence one to sentence two reads: ...GDR Council of State. The chairman of... (deleting words)

Page 20, column one, paragraph one, fourth full sentence to sentence five reads: ...great dynamism. The 1986-1990 long-term agreement for... (correcting date)

Emergency Aid Flight Leaves for Yerevan

LD1012235788 East Berlin ADN International Service in German 2234 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Excerpt] Berlin (ADN)—A special Interflug aircraft with relief goods for the victims of the earthquake in Armenia tonight took off for Yerevan from Berlin-Schoenefeld Airport. The Il-18 has on board 11 tons of urgently required medical supplies and food concentrates.

This emergency help, ordered by the GDR Government, was agreed in alliance with the USSR Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies. The GDR German Red Cross and Ministry of Health assembled the solidarity consignment. [passage omitted]

Citizens Arrested by Security Forces

LD1112150988 Hamburg DPA in German 1328 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Berlin (DPA)—A small group of GDR citizens who have presumably applied for exit visas were arrested in East Berlin on Saturday by State security forces. The men and women were carrying briefcases with a capital letter "A" eyewitnesses reported in West Berlin on Sunday.

The security forces suddenly intervened. One man was led away using force, the other demonstrators were taken to nearby buildings, it was said. The whole incident was over very quickly. The capital letter "A" [ausreiseantraege] on the briefcases indicated that the GDR citizens had applied for exit visas.

Assembly Committee Praises Gorbachev Troop Cuts

LD0912222388 Budapest MTI in English
2100 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, December 9 (MTI)—At its session on Friday [9 December] in Budapest, the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Hungarian National Assembly welcomed the announcement of Mikhail Gorbachev made in New York on the unilateral Soviet reduction of armed forces. It noted with satisfaction that the planned reduction will also affect the area of Hungary.

In its position, the committee, which met under the chairmanship of Matyas Szuros, evaluated the Soviet initiative as a world political act of historical importance. The Foreign Affairs Committee of the National Assembly considers the armed forces reduction announcement to be the practical implementation of the new foreign political way of thinking and new military policy conception of the Soviet Union. With regard to the tragic reports on the Armenian earthquake, the Foreign Affairs Committee voiced its sincere sympathy for the relatives of the victims and the Armenian nation, and assured the people of friendly solidarity.

The committee gave recognition to the Foreign Ministry for its work. The Foreign Affairs Committee approved the draft of the ministry's budget for 1989, in spite of the fact that severe austerity included could obstruct the efficient operation of the ministry. The Foreign Ministry calculates with budgetary support of some 2,000 million forints and plans its revenues to total more than 1,500 million forints. This means that the sum of support will be 17.1 per cent higher than this year's level, and revenues 19.3 per cent more.

The ministry mainly intends to increase its revenues by raising the price of visa issuing by 50 per cent. (In general, a Hungarian visa costs the equivalent of 10 dollars). With respect to reducing expenditure, the reduction of foreign representations may be considered.

The Foreign Affairs Committee holds it necessary to rationalize and better coordinate the foreign information about Hungary between institutions.

Mr Szuros reported that since the last session of the Foreign Affairs Committee, the president of the National Assembly has received a great deal of post about the Hungarians in Transylvania. The correspondents include several voluntarily set up societies and alternative organizations, including the Hungarian Democratic Forum. These organizations have offered the participation of their experts. The Foreign Affairs Committee considers the initiative worthy of appreciation and pointed out that an important task of Hungarian legislation is to formulate a good law on minorities.

Gyula Horn Welcomes Proposals

LD1012185588 Budapest MTI in English
1638 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, December 10 (MTI)—Saturday's [10 December] edition of the Hungarian newspaper "NEPSZABADSAG" carries an interview with Gyula Horn, state secretary for foreign affairs, on the unilateral Soviet arms reduction measures announced by Mikhail Gorbachev in New York and their international significance.

Mr Horn states that, "We can welcome this extremely important Soviet inititative because on the one hand it reflects the new Soviet political thinking in practice, and on the other this disarmament move, taken in coordination with the member states of the Warsaw Treaty Organization, concerns mainly the European region including the conventional forces deployed in Hungary. Under the plan, 500,000 troops are to be demobilized over two years, that is, the Soviet Union is to cut its land forces by one quarter without demanding similar moves from the other side. The reduction of armoured troops and artillery, in other words, offensive armaments, is a significant step in the elimination of discrepancies. Discrepancies, however, can be found on both sides, and I think that, though the measures I have just mentioned are unilateral, it would increase confidence and pave the way for an agreement on disarmament if NATO were to follow suit. It is well established that the upward movement of the arms race is ignited by a series of moves and counter-moves. It would be good if the other side would follow the Soviet example. Here I'm thinking of certain categories of the navy and air force, the reduction of the armed forces of NATO and cutting back on its offensive capacities.

"Though Mikhail Gorbachev did not refer to the Vienna follow-up when he announced the unilateral move, I am convinced that the withdrawal of 50,000 troops from Hungary, the GDR and Czechoslovakia will make a benevolent impact on the Vienna talks and contribute to giving a mandate to the disarmament talks and speed up the whole process."

"The Warsaw Treaty Organization already proposed at its Budapest meeting in 1986, as well as this year in Warsaw, that the number of armies be cut by one third in the nineties. Those proposals envisaged the establishment of the defensive character of the armies only in the third phase. Now the Soviet Union is approaching this target, not in a symmetric, but in a unilateral way. I think it goes without saying that this fact alters the BS [as received] that have to be taken into consideration at the forthcoming talks. It would be a big help if the mutually coordinated exchange of data started as soon as possible. This is hindered by the fact that the two parties assess the forces of the other side in a different way. NATO, for example, has recently made public a survey in which, in certain categories, the Warsaw Treaty Organization has a 3-to-1 edge. We cannot accept this because, besides the numbers, the qualitative side must also be taken into

calculation. At the same time, the London-based Institute for Srategic Studies accepts a much smaller Warsaw Treaty edge, as does the U.S. Senate's Committee [words indistinct]. It shows that the other side is not homogeneous as regards power relations.

"The Soviet Union will cut its forces deployed in Hungary, the GDR and Czechoslovakia by 50,000 troops, about 20 per cent. 62,000 Soviet troops are stationed in Hungary, and this figure is to be cut by 25 per cent. Exact figures will be worked out in the weeks and months to come. The order for withdrawal will be worked out following a coordination of the parties concerned. The political decision has been taken, the implementation requires preparations.

"The Soviet decision reconfirms our earlier view that Hungary may be in the first stage of an arms and armaments reduction. The issue has been raised both at bilateral and multilateral talks several times. It is especially important for us, because significant military troops and armaments are concentrated in the region in which Hungary lies. The Soviet Union also agrees with the Hungarian demand that the country belong to the zone designated for arms reduction".

Editorial on Gorbachev Proposals

AU0912160188 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 8 Dec 88 p 1

[Editorial by Peter Vajda: "The Gorbachev Package"]

[Text] There are still more than 2 weeks until the winter holidays, but we have already received a preliminary present whose place is under our common Christmas tree. The Soviet "disarmament package" serves peace, and not only in general terms, because Mikhail Gorbachev's UN speech did not include a single sentence of general-propagandistic rhetoric. This is important because peace has been the most widely discussed issue in the United Nations since its inception, while mankind has often found itself nearing the brink of war.

Reserves give value to money, and deeds give credit to words. The speech heard in New York on 7 December proved with facts that restructuring permeated foreign policy thinking without any taboos. The main motive of this new way of thinking is that attention should be focused on the common tasks facing mankind, and the security of states and social orders cannot be based on weapons. Superiority—not for anyone—can be no guarantee, because real security and security policies are too important a matter to be based on military considerations. As for the image of the enemy on the alert, in which people on both sides had believed, this has in 1988 been turned into a fantasy. A self-example could be the best tool for replacing this fantasy with the image of a friend and partner. Such an example is shown by the Soviet Union in the decision recently announced by Mikhail Gorbachev. In 2 years, the Soviet Armed Forces will be cut by 500,000 soldiers and 10,000 armored vehicles in Europe. This is a real, not a symbolic, reduction, a step which even if nothing is dependent on it, justly expects a return measure. In agreement with Hungary, the CSSR, and the GDR, six Soviet tank divisions will have been removed from these countries by 1991. As for armored vehicles, one cannot deny the fact that these are frightening military devices particularly capable of attack, and that the Soviet Army has an advantage in the number of such machines. Thus, this decision demonstrates that the current Soviet leadership, which is thinking in global terms, is wise and brave enough to give up this advantage. Other kinds of offensive weapons will also be withdrawn, and the structure of the remaining Soviet troops will be changed to make it absolutely clear that there is neither the intention nor the capacity to launch an attack. This will mark a dramatic change compared with the current situation.

Part of the 50,000 soldiers and 5,000 tanks to be withdrawn from the aforementioned three countries will leave Hungarian territory. This will represent a step in the direction that has been greatly discussed in various forums in Hungary, in accordance with our public feeling and our leaders' efforts. We can now note with deep satisfaction that the spirit of dialogue is gaining ground, a dialogue in which Budapest believed even "during the coldest days." It has been proved that Hungary can also be a testing ground for the reduction of armed forces and armaments in the beginning of this process. All we could wish for is to continue this process and develop it on the basis of fairness, mutualism, and confidence. Yesterday, all this seemed a utopia and an illusion, but today, it is a real possibility. The historic speech in the structure on the bank of the East River has prepared the road leading to this possibility.

MSZMP Central Committee To Convene 15 Dec

LD0912191588 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 9 Dec 88

[From the news headlines]

[Text] A session of the MSZMP Central Committee has been convened for next Thursday [15 December]. The body will debate timely political questions; it will hear a report to be submitted by Central Committee Secretary Janos Berecz; and it will adopt a stand on some fundamental internal political questions which preoccupy the party membership and society.

A proposal regarding the modernization of governmental work will be submitted to the Central Committee by Premier Miklos Nemeth.

The body will also debate personnel questions contained in a report to be presented by General Secretary Karoly Grosz.

Grosz Attends Csongrad County Party Session

Session Opens 10 Dec

LD1012212488 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Excerpt] Zsuzsa Ladanyi reports from the party conference being held in Csongrad County, and which is planned to last 2 days:

[Ladanyi] With the participation of General Secretary Karoly Grosz, the Csongrad County party conference opened this morning. According to its original intentions, the Szeged party committee would not have convened this meeting. On the eve of the conference, an article in DEL MAGYARORSZAG stated that it was the impression of a significant part of the party membership over the past months that organized forces here had almost unanimously blocked the intentions deriving from the membership and the impetus since May. The party conference almost had to be forced to take place.

In his oral supplementary report, First Secretary Sandor Szabo acknowledged the responsibility of the party committee in connection with the delays. He also spoke self-critically about the fact that in the various ethical matters, they had been late in initiating a complete investigation and a calling to account, and that they had not distanced themselves unequivocally and decidedly from the negative phenomena.

It is also true, said Sandor Szabo, that they had not explored the various interests. They had only rarely consulted the membership, and thus the membership for the most party was only the executor of the decisions.

The first secretary also spoke in his oral supplementary report about the matters which strongly upset public opinion in the country, including the suspension of TISZATAJ, which aroused a great storm nationally. He also said that that recently the party committee had received a letter with 53 signatures. The signatories asked for the rehabilitation of the old editorial personnel of TISZATAJ. At the 15 November session of the Politburo, the meeting participants were told that the suspension of the periodical was considered to be outdated.

The first secretary declared therefore that lessons must be learned and that general agreement must also be sought in the TISZATAJ affair. [passage omitted]

Grosz on County Leadership

LD1012214388 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1730 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Karoly Grosz has spoken at the Csongrad County party conference. Zsuzsa Ladanyi reports from Szeged:

[Ladanyi] Lively debate, occasionally passionate, and sometimes annoyed contributions have characterized the Csongrad County party conference that began this morning, and in which Karoly Grosz is also taking part. The party general secretary stepped onto the speaker's platform this afternoon.

He began by saying that those who are not holding a party conference do not have to be ashamed, for they are not conservative or backward because of this. The essence is a renewal of content, to which Karoly Grosz admitted that the Central Committee had not give enough help. It has a large debt; there is still much confusion in people's minds.

Karoly Grosz also reacted to a letter which he had received from the Szeged representatives of the Federation of Young Democrats. In this letter, the young people informed the general secretary of their nonconcurrence with the 29 November speech in the sports hall. They described this speech as arousing fear and being manipulative and aggressive.

Karoly Grosz said that the young people had put on a shirt which was not their own. Then he spoke on the party's stand toward the various political trends. He later dwelled on issues that especially preoccupy those who live in Csongrad County. He said the following:

[Begin Grosz recording] The county leadership has recently proven hesitant on many political issues. I believe that they devoted much more energy to issues that preoccupy small communities, individual people, and small groups than to problems that preoccupy the country's several tens of thousands-strong communist community. Here, the county leadership mistook priorities and thereby squandered its strength and energy, and left part of the party membership alone. [applause]

Many qualifications of the report have been given. The verbal report pleases me—it is a matter of taste. To put it mildly, I am not enraptured with the written one. It is contradictory. Sometimes I do not understand what is written down. What really makes me anxious is that I do not see a program in it. If I had to work here as a base party secretary, I would not know, on the basis of this, what I should do.

The other thing is how this party conference was convened. If a leadership has decided the form in which it wishes to work out the party conference's standpoint, [word indistinct] the party membership to this. Or if it is unable to decide, it should first go out to the plants, to the villages, and to the universities. They should speak with the party membership, and only then should the leadership decide. [end recording]

[Ladanyi] The general secretary then said that the social reform must affect the base and the superstructure alike. He spoke about what had been and what had not been successfully achieved in the economic sphere this year.

He considered the greatest problem to be the unsettled nature of the relationship between the enterprises and government, and he announced that at the beginning of next year, the Central Committee would report to the party membership on what it had done since the party conference.

Declares 'War' on Extreme Right

LD1012224488 Budapest MTI in English 2102 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, December 10 (MTI)—Karoly Grosz addressed the Csongrad County party conference in Szeged on Saturday [10 December]. 400 delegates representing the county's 36,000 communists were present.

The party's general secretary said, "An important development has been taking shape since May: The party movement is being renewed. The previous party conference raised several pressing local problems. In the wake of the conferences, a number of gifted people were elected into the leading bodies in several places, which contributes to enriching the movement and developing democracy, political sensitiveness along with political culture. During the preparations for the party conferences, however, the party movement was engaged in internal matters and the major tasks facing the country were not given enough political attention".

Mr Grosz said that he had received a lot of reaction to his speech delivered at the Budapest meeting of party activists on November 29. A letter written by the Szeged organization of FIDESZ [Federation of Young Democrats] called the speech "an incitement against the political minority and an open threat". Similar views were voiced at the present conference. Mr Grosz had this to say on the question:

"People probably didn't read or listen to my speech carefully enough, because I dissociated myself from the overtly extreme rightist and counter-revolutionary forces, those who are seeking to overthrow the system. I did not express a negative opinion about alternative political endeavours. I underlined that we have a clear position on the alternative movements, which has been approved by the Central Committee. At the Budapest meeting of activists, I talked about the right to existence of various groupings and democratic endeavours. What is decisive in politics? it is one word: socialism. And it is not only Communists and Marxist-Leninists who are after socialism".

Mr Grosz continued: "We will cooperate with the so-called left-of-centre forces and the progressive right-of-centre supporters in order to take a joint stand against nationalism and war, and act together in environmental protection and other issues. But we declare war against the extreme right. We are seeking to win over the left-of-centre, and cooperate with the right-of-centre in issues where our interests are identical. It will be most difficult to cooperate with organizations of the extreme left, because we do not even know their manifestos. (...) Every organization, movement, party and grouping should decide where it stands: to the left or the right, and whether it wants socialism or not. Actions speak louder than words. We are convinced that both FIDESZ and others will judge us according to what we do."

Mr Grosz underlined that the movement needs more theoretical work and solidity. "We cannot deny the results of the four decades, but we have consistently to dissociate ourselves from the mistakes."

In conclusion, Mr Grosz said that the Central Committee is open to any proposal from the membership. It wants to live, work and discuss politics together with the whole communist community. What it needs is an active equilibrium from the people and sober considerations from the party. Early next year, the Central Committee will give an account of its activity following the party conference.

Berecz at Szabolcs-Szatmar County Session

AU0612192588 Budapest NEPSZABADSAG in Hungarian 5 Dec 88 p 5

[Report by correspondent Janos T. Rac on speech by Janos Berecz, member of the MSZMP Politburo and Central Committee secretary, at the Szabolcs-Szatmar County party conference held in Nyiregyhaza on 3 December: "County Party Conferences—Szabolcs-Szatmar: With More Initiatives, Political Thoughts, and Deeds—Janos Berecz' Address"]

[Text] Janos Berecz took the floor in the debate. In his introduction, Janos Berecz analyzed some new elements of our domestic policy situation and stressed that, with its own political measures, the party wants to consistently shape reality. The fact that domestic policy issues are again first on the agenda of the Central Committee session to be held in the middle of December this year shows this intention.

Janos Berecz then analyzed the public evaluation of the county's current situation, starting from the recent survey prepared by the local party's education directorate. According to this survey, some two-thirds of the people here think that decisions that fundamentally shape the county's life and fate are made in the capital, at the desks of central bodies. Janos Berecz stressed the following: "The demand for more opportunities for local decisions and independence is legitimate, but consideration of local efforts and resources is also, at least, that important. Opportunities deriving from the county's conditions and geographical position should be exploited even more, including processing of a larger amount of local raw materials or raw materials that arrive through Zahony [border town with USSR], as well as making local profits from the increasing East-West transit passing through this county." Speaking about Hungarian-Romanian relations, Janos Berecz said the following: "Conflicts between two countries of identical social order

cannot be maintained for long, and we would like to promote favorable changes by strengthening the human and trade relations here, along the border."

In this county with a considerable agricultural past and future, the major part of Janos Berecz' speech dealt with the renewal of our agricultural policy. He pointed out that local people have always respected the land on which they were living, and for them, wheat is life. Things have not changed nowadays either, but 87 percent of the existing 127 large-scale agricultural enterprises in the county are still considered as not meeting their potential. There are almost 30 agricultural enterprises which, given the current conditions, would consume their assets within 3-4 years, and would cease to exist almost by themselves.

Janos Berecz called the decision adopted 31 years ago for planning a new agricultural policy a successfully implemented decision. Reorganization of Hungarian agriculture on the basis of Leninist cooperative principles was carried out in a way that led to a secure supply for the population and to a considerable export of agricultural goods, rather than to a regression in agricultural production. However, it is a mistake to think that the bigger an enterprise, the more socialist it becomes, and it was also a mistake that we failed to encourage enough the emergence of auxiliary farms. However, there are many examples, even in this county, of places in which these auxiliary units have emerged—in the milk, rubber, or canned food industries—the economic conditions are better today. There is need for similar initiatives and courage in developing this region's forestry and wood processing industry.

Therefore, Janos Berecz said, we need a new agricultural policy concept which should include much more than merely agricultural considerations—for example, industries and infrastructures that have not always provided proper support for the agricultural sector. If this situation continues, agriculture would also lose its favorable position soon. Both ensuring a proper domestic supply and making agricultural exports more efficient are strategic tasks.

Jans Berecz said that, in order to implement these tasks, it is indispensable that the regulating role of supply and demand should be firmly asserted in our agricultural sector. For the market to become the major "arbitrator," we should primarily make our economic activity free, and guidance should become real guidance, a factor that, while in operation, also assists the particularly disadvantageous production units. We should also make use of the opportunities provided by the law on associations for the agricultural sectors. The food industry should strive to make the emerging new cooperation projects contribute to the processing of agricultural products on location and to producing manufactured goods. Such a modern agricultural management would lead to an increased role played by the household plots and to an identical, or at least close, interest in production, processing, and trade.

Janos Berecz mentioned the so-called mafias which penetrate the gaps precisely in these three spheres of activity: production, processing, and distribution. The severity of the law is not enough here. It is particularly important to reduce the existing gap between the procurement and distribution of vegetables and fruit.

Janos Berecz then spoke about the conditions of representing interests. Increasing representation of interests depends on making the bodies that represent cooperative, trade union, and economic chamber interests more determined and on these bodies' joint position. By encouraging these bodies, the main goal of the party is to make the people show respect and support for the agricultural sector that provides their bread. Janos Berecz said that, in order to also achieve this in Szabolcs-Szatmar County, the communists should contribute to eliminating the existing disadvantages by more self-confident political initiatives and actions.

In conclusion, Janos Berecz said that the intelligentsia is one of the great resources for the county's development. He said that a sectarian isolation once characterized the county's policy concerning the intelligentsia. However, the program of development can be based only on joint actions and common responsibility. We should find opportunities for cooperation with the intelligentsia, including those who are now close to the Democratic Forum, and who think that they would cooperate with the other party, if there were another party now. Even this should not separate us when we speak about our development, the people's health, their culture, and their knowledge, in short, their future, Janos Berecz said.

Government-KISZ Talks Held 7 Dec

AU0912142288 Budapest MTI in English 2145 GMT 7 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, MTI, 07/12/1988—Wednesday [7 December] in Budapest, representatives of the government and the Communist Youth Union of Hungary (KISZ) held a second meeting, under the leadership of Minister of State Imre Pozsgay and Imre Nagy, first secretary of the KISZ Central Committee, on practical ways of improving the situation of young people, chances of acquiring first flats, the right of young persons beginning their careers to a first job, and proposals related to accelerating the working out of a family income tax system, and the financial support of education.

Agreement was reached in the most essential points of the issues on the agenda. Of the employment policy proposals, a debate came about only on the unemployment aid to be extended to young persons beginning careers. In this issue, a compromise agreement was reached, according to which the legal measure on unemployment aid—which does not cover young people beginning careers—be submitted to the government by the State Office for Wages and Labour with January 1,

1989. [sentence as received] The government offered to ensure retraining to people who are prepared for it, and whom it can direct to suitable careers with the step.

In the housing issue, the government acknowledged the interests of young people related to homes and their demands. The government accepted formulation of the first variation of the housing policy conception to be submitted to social debate by the end of March or early April, 1989. The conception will be worked out with the involvement of KISZ and the interest representation organs, and other organizations, with appropriate professional preparation.

An agreement was also reached with respect to the family income system. However, the debate continues on the degree of raising the family allowances, KISZ considers a greater degree necessary than the planned 300 forints.

Mr Pozsgay termed the meeting as one of good partnership cooperation.

The representatives of the government and KISZ agreed to hold the next meeting in the middle of next year.

New Youth Organization To Form Within KISZ

LD1112114088 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 0900 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] A new independently operating youth organization is to be formed within KISZ [Communist Youth Union of Hungary] in Hungary. The aim of the Federation of Young Intelligentsia [Ertelmisegi Fiatalok Szoevetsege] is to represent the efforts and needs of young left-wing members of the intelligentsia. Their draft program is expected to be submitted for public debate in the middle of January, before the KISZ congress.

The new organization demands that it should be able to participate as a partner in decisions affecting young members of the intelligentsia. The new organization for young members of the intelligentsia supports KISZ's attempts at renewal and also offers a strategic alliance with the party.

Pozsgay Interviewed on Party Pluralism

AU1112201188 Vienna Television Service in German 1830 GMT 11 Dec 88

["Exclusive interview" with Imre Pozsgay, minister of state and member of the MSZMP Politburo, by Austrian television reporter Karl Stipsicz, in Budapest; date not given—recorded; Pozsgay statements in Hungarian with superimposed German translation]

[Text] [Pozsgay] A system with several parties that is based on general consensus certainly has its place in our plans for the future; this is what I call pluralism.

[Stipsicz] Do you mean taking after the Austrian and thus the Western example?

[Pozsgay] Even that is conceivable. To me this would mean that the leadership role of my party is not guaranteed by the Constitution. There is no Constitution in God's wide world that could do that. We have to use our own abilities in order to draw up good programs and maintain the leadership role of the Communist Party.

[Stipsicz] Imre Pozsgay tirelessly travels the whole country to take his policy to the people. His word counts. A Politburo member only for 8 months, Pozsgay today is among the three most important men in Hungarian politics. As state minister he is responsible for political democratization in the parliament. There is little time left for watching television; here you can see Pozsgay in his home with his wife. The next great challenge is the internal reform of the party.

[Pozsgay] The future of this party is no longer conceivable on the basis of centralism and authority. Unanimity can only be achieved in choosing the subject of discussion. Discussion has to proceed from several viewpoints. Therefore, forming political platforms within the party must be permitted.

[Stipsicz] According to Imre Pozsgay, reform in Hungary cannot be stopped by anything.

[Pozsgay] If the government suddenly halts the reform process, Hungarian society will certainly not come to a standstill halfway down the road. Clashes would occur. We have to cooperate in order to form a new consensus. This is possible only through a reasonable dialogue.

Pozsgay Envisages Institute on Ethnic Affairs

LD1012223188 Budapest MTI in English 1842 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, December 10 (MTI)—Hungary's future identity, commitment and open humanism in Eastern Europe can be perceived only when the coexistence of the majority and the ethnic minorities is guided by friendly coexistence and effective cooperation and the commitment to building the country, said Imre Pozsgay, member of the HSWP [MSZMP] Political Committee and minister of state, in his address delivered at the 8th Congress of the Democratic Federation of Slavs in Hungary. Around 200 delegates are looking into the federation's work over the past five years and the situation of the 110,000 Slavs living in Hungary.

As regards the bill on nationalities, which is currently being worked out, Mr Pozsgay said that reference to the policy of principle does not relieve anyone of the commitment to giving safeguards to the ethnic minorities both in law and in practice. The majority must help nationalities, which is not a sacrifice, but a reciprocal interest. The nationalities in Hungary cannot be content

with a law that only reflects the goodwill of the government. The law must also provide for the prerequisites for asserting the stipulated rights, thereby forcing out the implementation from the state.

Mr Pozsgay said that a governmental institute would be set up to assist efforts aimed at making the nationality issue an integrated part of Hungarian political life.

Csehak Addresses Romanian Minority Congress

LD1012233288 Budapest MTI in English
2007 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, December 10 (MTI)—Judit Csehak, member of the HSWP [MSZMP] Political Committee and minister of health and social security, addressed the 7th congress of the Democratic Federation of Romanians in Hungary. The congress is looking into the federation's work over the past five years and the situation of the 25,000 Romanians living in Hungary.

Ms Csehak pointed out that the first day's debate proved that the delegates represented their nationality with responsibility. Every contributor felt that the federation faced new tasks and advocated the renewal of the federation, which was long overdue.

To date, reference to the small number of an ethnic minority relieved the political leadership of tackling the tasks. Prerequisites for the elimination of the disadvantages deriving from belonging to an ethnic minority would be provided by the overall renewal of Hungarian society, said Ms Csehak. On the bill on nationalities, which is currently being worked out, she said that the settlement of relations between the majority and the nationalities provides for the protection of ethnic minorities and gives a legal frame for cooperation. Ethnic minorities should also set up their independent and grass root organizations, she said. The government wishes to allocate more money to education of the minorities in their own vernacular. Without live communities, there is no lively society, Judit Csehak concluded.

Congress Ends 11 Dec

LD1112205388 Budapest MTI in English
1740 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, December 11 (MTI)—The 8th congress of the Democratic Federation of Romanians living in Hungary ended in Gyula on Sunday [11 December]. Judit Csehak, member of the Political Committee of the HSWP [MSZMP] and minister of health and social security, was present also at the second day of the congress. To sum up the debate carried out in Romanian Gyorgy Mark, general secretary of the federation, pointed out that the delegates gave a realistic assessment of the community's situation and the chances of survival as an ethnic minority. Most contributions dealt with education. Mr Mark agreed that one Romanian lesson a week at the nursery was not enough to prepare children for vernacular education at school. On another vital question of nationality existence he said that the self-conscious leaders could do most to prevent the Romanians from being assimilated into the Hungarian majority. This is also the interest of the majority.

The delegates elected Gyorgy Mihaiescu, deputy editor in chief at TANKONYVKIADO (school book) publishers, as president and Gyorgy Mark as general secretary. The national committee of the federation was also renewed.

Janos Berecz Visit to Austria Detailed

LD1112210388 Budapest MTI in English
1825 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, December 11 (MTI)—Janos Berecz, member of the Political Committee of the HSWP [MSZMP] and secretary of the Central Committee, visited Vienna from December 8 to 11 at the invitation of Heinz Fischer, vice-president of the Socialist Party of Austria and president of the party's parliamentary group.

Janos Berecz held talks with Heinz Fischer and Gunther Sallaberger, central secretary of the Socialist Party of Austria, and met other leaders. The parties to talks looked into opportunities for extending cooperation between the two parties.

At the cordial and friendly talks it was stated that there were several areas where the pooling of experience and an open debate could be useful to resolve the tasks facing the parties in development of the two societies and which also would serve the deepening of the good-neighbourly bilateral relations. The pooling of experience in these areas was termed necessary. Janos Berecz met Franz Muhri, president of the Communist Party of Austria.

Czech Customs Restrictions Affect Tourism

LD1012124788 Budapest Domestic Service in Hungarian 1100 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Our Prague correspondent Evelin Forro reports on the effects of the recent Czechoslovak customs restrictions:

[Forro] A Hungarian tourist in Komarno ate 3 kg of bananas in one sitting. It it true that he could hardly stand up, but he won: He took them across the border.

Cases have also occurred of, for example, people throwing their purchased goods under bridges and others leaving their packages out alongside roads.

According to Slovak newspapers, on the day after the introduction of the customs measures, they confiscated 100,000 korunas worth of goods from Hungarian tourists in Rajka. It also transpires that they did not find quantities of goods on anybody which would have indicated trafficking.

It is a fact that since the Czechoslovak ban on taking goods out has been in effect, Hungarian tourist traffic has declined. This was stated by the Hungarian consulate general in Bratislava. He said that supervision is strict but civilized. Rajka and Komarno received reinforcements from Prague, but there is no longer a need for the Czech customs officials, so they have gone back to the capital.

Istvan Lukacs, the head of the Malev office in Prague, told me that there had been no grave problems with Hungarian travelers at Ruzyne Airport. Previously, in the first days Polish planes had departed with 5-6 hour delays due to the lengthy customs inspections, but this is no longer common.

Pope Accepts Straub Invitation for 18 Aug Visit

LD0912235388 Budapest MTI in English
2109 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, December 9 (MTI)—Bruno F. Straub, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic, fulfilling the request of the Hungarian Catholic Episcopacy, forwarded an invitation to Pope John Paul II, for an official visit to Hungary, on August 18, 1989. In the letter of invitation, Mr Straub voiced his conviction that the visit of the pope would give further encouragement for further developing bilateral and international relations and cooperation, and would bring joy and satisfaction to the Catholic faithful, and to the entire Hungarian society. In the reply addressed to Bruno F. Straub, Pope John Paul II. answered the invitation of the president of the Presidential Council, and noted:

'To Mr Bruno F. Straub, president of the Presidential Council of the Hungarian People's Republic:

'I am well aware that this plan is the common intention of the Presidential Council and Council of Ministers of the People's Republic, and also accords to the unanimous wishes of the cardinal primate and his brethren, the members of the episcopacy. I am happy to inform you that I have accepted the invitation in the hope that my visit can give further encouragement to relations between the noble Hungarian nation and the Apostolic Holy See, and will also be an occasion to strengthen the sons of the Catholic Church in their belief. Therefore, I now express to you, your outstanding staff-members and the entire community of the nation my appreciative greetings, and I wish that the awaited meeting, with the assistance of the Lord Almighty, be the symbol and guarantee of friendship, agreement and peace.'

Public Gives Aid for Armenian Earthquake Victims

LD0912203288 Budapest MTI in English
1911 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Budapest, December 9 (MTI)—The Hungarian public was shocked to receive the news of the earthquake in Armenia. Many organizations, institutions, companies and workplace collectives offered their assistance to those in need, and support to offset the damage.

The Hungarian-Soviet Friendship Society (HSFS) group of the leather factory of Pecs has appealed to the HSFS member groups in the country to donate blood free of charge to the victims of the catastrophe.

The Hungarian National Committee of UNICEF has expressed its condolences to the catastrophe-stricken population of Armenia. As assistance, they are to forward antibiotics worth 500,000 forints via the Hungarian Red Cross.

Commentary on Gorbachev's UN Speech
AU1212143988 Warsaw TRYBUNA LUDU in Polish 8 Dec 88 p 6

[Commentary by Zygmunt Slomkowski: "Humanism as the Determinant of the Future"]

[Text] What defined the content of the speech that Mikhail Gorbachev delivered at the 43d UN Session were not historical anniversaries, but contemporary needs and human aspirations. However, it was fortuitious that certain anniversaries bore an affinity with widespread concepts of international relations and the creation of a better and safer and more peaceful world.

Mikhail Gorbachev referred to the French Revolution, the October Revolution, as well as the 40th anniversary of the United Nations' adoption of the Universal Declaration on Human Rights. There was good reason for this. The main thought contained in Gorbachev's speech at the UN forum was a broadly conceived humanization of the life of societies, peoples, and the entire world community. In light of this, referring to history proved to be exceptionally useful. The French Revolution bore the slogan freedom, equality, and fraternity on its banners. The socialist revolution added the humanist value of liberating man from economic dependence and the hatred produced by war to these slogans. The UN Declaration on Human Rights codified the principles that stress human dignity and the humanist values that apply to international life.

Ideological divisions, the long duration of the arms race, cold war, world war, and regional wars have pushed humanism to the background on many occasions and have reduced its importance as the cornerstone of relations between states and peoples. For humanism to be restored its place of first-rank importance in the creation of present and future relations as well as a view of the whole world, what was needed was new thinking, the fundamental changes that are currently taking place in the Soviet Union and the socialist states, as well as the new assessments that are being made in the West. Gorbachev achieved this by talking about the need to divest relations between states of ideology and militarization.

Gorbachev sees the United Nations Organization as being an institution that—besides, this is line with its vocation—should become the main center for activities aimed at humanizing the future. The issues that he mentioned in his speech, such as a further reduction in weapons, a just solution to the debt problem, the protection of the natural environment, and the prevention and elimination of regional conflicts are becoming urgent challenges for the United Nations. The United Nations Organization, as a forum for equal, sovereign states, has the main role to play in the entire process of fostering world humanism.

In his New York speech, Gorbachev put forward a series of new, concrete Soviet proposals that pave the way to disarmament, and economic and humanitarian dialogue. With respect to Europe, he proposed a further unilateral reduction in Soviet forces and weapons that should help speed up the commencement of a European conference on reducing conventional weapons. In the case of Afghanistan, the Soviet proposal concerned a rapid cessation of all military activities in that country and the use of the United Nations to guarantee the neutrality and peaceful development of that state. In the case of the Middle East, Gorbachev repeated the proposal to call an international conference that should produce a permanent peaceful settlement dictated by the requirements of humanism.

The concrete, practical suggestions made by the Soviet leader at the United Nations are falling on the fertile soil of universal ideas of the world—a planet on which people realize the noble goals of life. For these reasons, Gorbachev's speech has been very warmly welcomed.

Aid Collected for Armenian Earthquake Victims
LD0912232488 Warsaw PAP in English 2202 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 9—Polish society is deeply moved by the tragedy caused by the earthquake in Armenia. Many institutions, social organizations and individual persons not only send their words of moral support but also declare material aid.

The Economic Committee of the Council of Ministers KERM decided to provide immediate aid for the victims, sending them medicines, tents, blankets and dressing materials.

The executive committee of the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions OPZZ intends to provide accomodation for a thousand persons in rest-homes and sanatoria as from January 1, 1989.

Many persons answered the appeal by the DZIENNIK LODZKI daily, contributing donations for the victims.

Minister of transport, shipping and communication decided to exempt from fees all the parcels and postal money orders for the earthquake victims. The Polish airlines "Lot" declared their free transport of 13 tonnes of donations.

The first shipment of medicines and medical apparatus is to leave for Armenia tomorrow. The gifts are bought from funds donated by Polish committee for cooperation with UNICEF and Polish Red Cross.

Jaruzelski, Others Sign Quake Condolence Book
LD1012234188 Warsaw PAP in English 2003 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 10—In connection with the tragic earthquake in Armenia, PUWP [PZPR] CC first secretary, President of the Council of State Wojciech Jaruzelski and PUWP CC Political Bureau members, Prime

Minister Mieczyslaw F. Rakowski and PUWP CC Secretary Jozef Czyrek made an entry in the book of condolences laid out at the Soviet Embassy here, writing the deepest words of sympathy and fraternal solidarity.

Our country's society manifests these feelings in the spontaneous, heart-felt response of citizens, social organizations and institutions declaring the readiness to carry an immediate assistance to victims.

We would like to assure the Soviet side that fraternal nations of the Soviet Union can always count on friendship, brotherhood and ally cooperation.

Walesa in Paris To Honor Human Rights Accord

Arrives; To Meet Mitterand

AU0912171088 Paris AFP in English
1634 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Paris, Dec 9 (AFP)—The leader of the banned Solidarity trade union, Lech Walesa, arrived here Friday [9 December] for his first visit outside Poland since the communist authorities declared martial law in December, 1981.

Mr. Walesa arrived at Paris Orly International Airport after a flight from Warsaw to attend ceremonies commemorating the 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Mr. Walesa, a Nobel peace prize winner, will meet President Francois Mitterrand on Saturday. He will also meet another winner of the Nobel Peace Prize, Soviet scientist Andrei Sakharov, a former dissident and now a critical supporter of Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's reform programme.

Mr. Walesa's last visit abroad was also to France in 1981, two months before martial law was proclaimed in Poland.

Before leaving Warsaw, Mr Walesa told journalists at the airport that the Polish people were still suffering from "the effects of Stalinism" and that new legislation was needed to enforce respect for fundamental liberties.

At Forum With Sakharov

LD1012235488 Warsaw PAP in English
2159 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Paris, Dec. 10: An international seminar "human rights and people excluded from them" that wound up at the UNESCO seat here this afternoon was organized by the foundation "France of Freedom" led by Danielle Mitterrand, the wife of the French president, and a special committee of international non-government organizations congo [as received] chaired by a Pole, Marek Hagmajer.

Today, a plenary meeting held on the last day of the seminar heard the results of discussions by five specialized commissions. One of the commissions that focused on correlations of human rights was chaired by Marek Hagmajer.

Next, the participants in the international seminar were received by president of the French National Assembly Laurent Fabius at his residence—the Lassay Palace. At the meeting attended by nearly 1,000 people present were Hortensia Allende, a widow of the murdered Chilean president, Marek Hagmajer and co-chairman of the main board of the Polish U.N. friends society Andrzej Nartowski. Invited were also the two Nobel peace prize winners Andrey Sakharov and Lech Walesa.

This afternoon a tribute was paid to Priest Joseph Wrzesinski at the terrace of human rights in the vicinity of the chaillot palace in Warsaw Sq. A commemorative plaque was built in here several months ago.

Wrzesinski, a son of a Polish emigrant, died last February. In 1957 he founded an international organization of assistance to all despair—the fourth world whose efforts concentrate on the so-called new poor, people living in poverty in highly developed western countries.

Celebrations at the terrace were led by Danielle Mitterrand.

Lech Walesa, on a visit to Paris, was received today by French President Francois Mitterrand. Their 30-minute talk concerned generally understood human rights, the current situation in Poland as well as the European message, that is spiritual values which unite West and East Europe, the Presidential office spokesman said.

Mitterrand also had a 30-minute talk with Andrey Sakharov. According to the spokesman it focused on broadly meant human rights and also on Soviet perestroyka.

Next, Nobel peace laureates were received at the Matignon Palace by Premier Michel Rocard. The prime minister thanked Polish and Soviet authorities for allowing both laureates to participate in Paris celebrations.

Walesa and Sakharov met with each other at the Concorde Lafayette hotel where they were staying while in Paris.

Walesa also met there with Francis Blanchard, director-general of the international labour office.

Upon his arrival in Paris last night Walesa held talks with Lane Kirkland, president of the American Federation of Labour and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL—CIO) and Flor Bleux, deputy secretary-general of the World Confederation of Labour (WCL).

Urges Moderation, Opposes Strikes

AU1212122088 Paris AFP in English
1157 GMT 12 Dec 88

[Text] Paris, Dec 12 (AFP)—Solidarity leader Lech Walesa said here he wanted to help make Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign of reforms a success and sought to do nothing to jeopardize them.

At a news conference before leaving for Warsaw Monday, the leader of the banned Polish trade union sounded a moderate note on future labour unrest in Poland, saying there "was no place" for strikes, but that if they erupted anyway, "I am absolutely prepared to lead them".

Mr. Walesa, who was here for the weekend to attend ceremonies marking the 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, said he was hopeful about the perestroyka and glasnost drive for social and economic change Mr. Gorbachev was trying to implement.

On Poland, he said "Strikes are an ultimate weapon" but cautioned, "We must behave like good micro-organisms, germs that do not destroy the organism" on which they live.

He said he believed Alexander Dubcek, Czechoslovak Communist Party leader at the time of the brief period of liberalization known as the Prague Spring, had "gone too far". Mr. Dubcek's reforms, similar to Mr. Gorbachev's, were crushed when Soviet troops invaded in 1968.

However he made a fresh plea for "real pluralism" in Poland and again called for "roundtable" talks between Polish authorities and his trade union.

"We are ready for compromise and understanding...even with Satan", if necessary, he said. The talks, proposed after a wave of labour unrest last summer, have been delayed and rescheduled many times.

Mr. Walesa also said he hoped to continue his contacts with Soviet human rights activist and Nobel peace laureate Andrey Sakharov, whom he met here at the weekend.

He described Mr. Sakharov, a physicist who is considered father of the Soviet atomic bomb, as "a great brain and a great man".

Meanwhile Mr. Sakharov, who was also scheduled to leave Paris Monday for Moscow, has delayed his departure for 24 hours, informed sources said at Roissy airport. He was expected to return to Moscow Tuesday, the sources said.

Youths Throw Rocks at Gdansk Militia Station

LD1112190488 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1829 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Today Gdansk was again a scene of street brawls as a group of 200-300 young people, after mass in St Bridget's Church, marched towards the Marian Basilica, Wybrzeze Theatre, and the Second Militia Station nearby. Demonstrators aged 16 and 17 chanted slogans such as there is no freedom without Solidarity, and down with the Commies [precz z komuna] and threw stones at the Militia station building on Piwna Street, breaking several window panes in this building and in some adjoining ones. Participants scampered away when ZOMO [Civic Militia Mechanised Reserves] reinforcements arrived.

200 Attack Station

AU1112200588 Paris AFP in English
1954 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Warsaw, Dec 11 (AFP)—Some 200 rioting demonstrators attacked and damaged a police station in the Baltic port of Gdansk on Sunday, local sources reached by telephone said.

The incident came after more than 1,000 churchgoers had gathered after Mass at the Saint Bridget's parish church of the Lenin shipyards, cradle of the banned Solidarity trade union.

The demonstrators, who shouted "No freedom without Solidarity" and "Down with the Communists", were dispersed by "Zomo" anti-riot police.

But a smaller group attacked two police cars before taking on the police station, where they smashed virtually every window in the bottom three floors before dispersing, a witness said.

It was not immediately clear whether anyone was arrested.

Demonstration, Walesa Activities

LD1112224688 Warsaw PAP in English
2130 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Warsaw, Dec 11 (TANJUG)—Gdansk was not peaceful today either. Polish Radio and Television stations reported this evening that motorized police detachments (Zomo) had intervened to stop rioting in this Baltic town.

A group of from 200 to 300 young people demonstrated through the streets of the town and stoned the windows of the police station.

The demonstrations in Gdansk broke out after a mass in the St. Brigade Catholic Church, outside which leader of the banned Solidarity trade union Lech Walesa gives political speeches every Sunday. However, Walesa is in Paris today, enjoying the hospitality of French President Francois Mitterrand.

Polish authorities gave Walesa permission to visit Paris with a group of advisors, which has encouraged young radical supporters of Solidarity. The participants in

Urges Moderation, Opposes Strikes

AU1212122088 Paris AFP in English
1157 GMT 12 Dec 88

[Text] Paris, Dec 12 (AFP)—Solidarity leader Lech Walesa said here he wanted to help make Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev's campaign of reforms a success and sought to do nothing to jeopardize them.

At a news conference before leaving for Warsaw Monday, the leader of the banned Polish trade union sounded a moderate note on future labour unrest in Poland, saying there "was no place" for strikes, but that if they erupted anyway, "I am absolutely prepared to lead them".

Mr. Walesa, who was here for the weekend to attend ceremonies marking the 40th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, said he was hopeful about the perestroyka and glasnost drive for social and economic change Mr. Gorbachev was trying to implement.

On Poland, he said "Strikes are an ultimate weapon" but cautioned, "We must behave like good micro-organisms, germs that do not destroy the organism" on which they live.

He said he believed Alexander Dubcek, Czechoslovak Communist Party leader at the time of the brief period of liberalization known as the Prague Spring, had "gone too far". Mr. Dubcek's reforms, similar to Mr. Gorbachev's, were crushed when Soviet troops invaded in 1968.

However he made a fresh plea for "real pluralism" in Poland and again called for "roundtable" talks between Polish authorities and his trade union.

"We are ready for compromise and understanding...even with Satan", if necessary, he said. The talks, proposed after a wave of labour unrest last summer, have been delayed and rescheduled many times.

Mr. Walesa also said he hoped to continue his contacts with Soviet human rights activist and Nobel peace laureate Andrey Sakharov, whom he met here at the weekend.

He described Mr. Sakharov, a physicist who is considered father of the Soviet atomic bomb, as "a great brain and a great man".

Meanwhile Mr. Sakharov, who was also scheduled to leave Paris Monday for Moscow, has delayed his departure for 24 hours, informed sources said at Roissy airport. He was expected to return to Moscow Tuesday, the sources said.

Youths Throw Rocks at Gdansk Militia Station

LD1112190488 Warsaw Domestic Service in Polish
1829 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Today Gdansk was again a scene of street brawls as a group of 200-300 young people, after mass in St Bridget's Church, marched towards the Marian Basilica, Wybrzeze Theatre, and the Second Militia Station nearby. Demonstrators aged 16 and 17 chanted slogans such as there is no freedom without Solidarity, and down with the Commies [precz z komuna] and threw stones at the Militia station building on Piwna Street, breaking several window panes in this building and in some adjoining ones. Participants scampered away when ZOMO [Civic Militia Mechanised Reserves] reinforcements arrived.

200 Attack Station

AU1112200588 Paris AFP in English
1954 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Warsaw, Dec 11 (AFP)—Some 200 rioting demonstrators attacked and damaged a police station in the Baltic port of Gdansk on Sunday, local sources reached by telephone said.

The incident came after more than 1,000 churchgoers had gathered after Mass at the Saint Bridget's parish church of the Lenin shipyards, cradle of the banned Solidarity trade union.

The demonstrators, who shouted "No freedom without Solidarity" and "Down with the Communists", were dispersed by "Zomo" anti-riot police.

But a smaller group attacked two police cars before taking on the police station, where they smashed virtually every window in the bottom three floors before dispersing, a witness said.

It was not immediately clear whether anyone was arrested.

Demonstration, Walesa Activities

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The demonstrations in Gdansk broke out after a mass in the St. Brigade Catholic Church, outside which leader of the banned Solidarity trade union Lech Walesa gives political speeches every Sunday. However, Walesa is in Paris today, enjoying the hospitality of French President Francois Mitterrand.

Polish authorities gave Walesa permission to visit Paris with a group of advisors, which has encouraged young radical supporters of Solidarity. The participants in

today's demonstrations in Gdansk, it is claimed in Warsaw, were mostly boys of 16 or 17. It is stressed that they shouted the slogans, "There Can be No Freedom Without Solidarity" and "Down With The Commune".

Warsaw Television this evening showed a film on Lech Walesa's activities in Paris and gave a short commentary which stressed that what was happening in Gdansk today and some other Polish towns earlier was not in keeping with the proclaimed desire to seek a way out of the socio-political and economic crisis in round-table consultations of the Poles.

Czyrek Chairs Session on 1989 Foreign Policy

LD0912214788 Warsaw PAP in English
2040 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 9—Poland's international activity in 1989 was discussed here today at a joint session of the PUWP [PZPR] CC International Commission, its counterpart bodies of the Central Committee of the Democratic Party and the Chief Committee of the United Peasants' Party, the All-Poland Alliance of Trade Unions (OPZZ) and social organizations.

The debates were chaired by Political Bureau member, PUWP CC Secretary Jozef Czyrek. The discussion was initiated by contributions by Foreign Minister Tadeusz Olechowski, Undersecretary of State at the Ministry for Foreign Economic Relations Janusz Kaczurba and head of the PUWP CC Foreign Department Ernest Kucza.

The discussion pointed to the need of further development of Poland's international contacts. Polish active foreign policy, determination in reforming the economy and progress in democratization of socio-political life will be decisive for the achievement of this aim.

The discussion also focused on an analysis of the international situation. The new thinking presented in the foreign policy of the Soviet Union is of decisive significance for the shaping of this situation, and this was again evidenced by significant proposals of CPSU General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev, announced at the U.N. forum.

Participants in the meeting voiced their deep satisfaction over new initiatives of the Soviet leader concerning the reduction of Soviet troops on the Warsaw Treaty—NATO borderline. They refer to the region of particular importance for Poland, Central Europe, and are convergent with the concepts included in the Jaruzelski plan and with Polish intentions concerning modification of armed forces' organizational structures. This would allow for reducing military spending to the level of indispensable sufficiency and for the use of the military industry for market production.

Stressed was the importance of further active promotion of joint initiatives of the Warsaw Treaty and development of Polish initiatives constituting a significant plane of Poland's activeness in international dialogue on disarmament.

The discussion put stress on the need of further expansion of cooperation with the socialist states, serving consolidation of Poland's position within socialist community.

Essential importance should be attached to the deepening of all-round contacts with the Soviet Union. The full realization of decisions made during this year's visit of Gorbachev to Poland should be of basic importance. The objective fact conducive to expansion of cooperation is the convergence between the socialist renewal in this country and the processes of perestroyka in the Soviet Union.

Much attention also focused on development of dialogue and further animation of contacts with developed capitalist countries. The session came out for expansion of cooperation, mainly economic one, with developing countries and an increase in political activeness of Poland in this region.

Every year expanded are forms of contacts developed as part of party and parliamentary cooperation, activity of socio-vocational organizations, scientific and artists' associations.

Stressed was the need to continue activities for securing interests of Polish citizens by this country's diplomatic and consular service in the face of growing personal contacts.

Rakowski Favors Pluralism; Rejects Solidarity

LD1112130288 Hamburg DPA in German
1221 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Hamburg (DPA)—In the view of Polish Prime Minister Mieczyslaw Rakowski, a pluralistic society will develop in Poland in which opposition parties are conceivable "but no (banned trade union) Solidarity." In an interview for the daily DIE WELT (Monday's edition), Rakowski said that what is being aimed for is a "pluralistic society in practice, not merely from the point of view of ideology." This process is starting.

Rakowski rejected the reproach that he is an "enemy to the death of (worker leader) Lech Walesa." He did not dispute Walesa's right to fight for Solidarity. But if Walesa wants to make the existence of freedom dependent on the existence of Solidarity, this is "to put it mildly, an impermissible simplification."

In the curent phase of development, the factories need "social calm" above all. A separate trade union such as Soldiarity would lead to new tensions. "But I also say," Rakowski added, "that the question as to whether Solidarity becomes an independent trade union or not is not taboo for me."

The Polish head of government admitted that the Polish party "favors reform policy in its mass" but that in its midst there are also "remainders of old thinking" which had come into being in Stalin's time. This thinking is still alive today and is not visible in programs, but in attitudes and in a degree of uncertainty about what the future will bring and the role of the party.

Rakowski linked the future of political and social reforms in Poland to the desire for new credits from the West. In this way, current political developments in his country will be assisted, he said according to DIE WELT which prereleased the interview.

Rakowski Justifies Economic Reform
LD1012220688 Warsaw PAP in English
1910 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Warsaw, Dec. 10—After the prime time news today, Premier Rakowski went on the air to say the following:

Ten minutes is absolutely too little for reviewing all the major issues which were dealt with by the government over the past three weeks. Some of them relate to the entire society, others—to the definite occupational circles. All of these issues are very important. What did we deal with above all. Naturally, with economy. I think it understandable, though I must say that not all share this view. From people who rank themselves among the opposition comes the charge that I want, the government which I lead wants, to sanify [as received] the Polish economy and realize the objectives which are set by the economic reform, paying no heed to the sphere of socio-political life. The charge also comes that we want, I personally want, to stalk society and the working class and prove that it is possible to reform the economics without bidding for the support of society and working class. I personally think these accusations not serious and at times I am surprised that such charges are formulated by serious people, as everything what we have been doing recently is just aimed at winning the support of society and producers, that is of the working class, for these reforms which we must simply realize. I realize there is no other way out but to put these reforms through and reach the objectives which are just set forth, given the support of society.

Only a question arises how to achieve this—not by means of appeals, anyway. In my opinion this can be achieved through radical improvement in the state of our economy, through constant creation of such conditions which will secure an increase in both agricultural and industrial production.

However, we cannot work miracles, we are not wonder-workers but we can do much and must do it with all our might so that the economy will accelerate its rhythm and pace.

Recently, I have met such an accusation that, acting exactly in the economic sphere, I want to avoid the round table somehow. Well, I must state that, undoubtedly, I am a supporter of the round table, I am a supporter of national agreement, of achievement of progress just in this sphere.

One can also say that, as a member of the party leadership, I am a co-author of the concept of organizing a round table. On the other hand, as the head of the government, I cannot sit on a sofa and wait until it finally comes to the round table. As we deal here with contradictory and various interests, after all.

The matter calls for time. I cannot sit back on the sofa and wait, as after two, three months society would surely say—well, what this prime minister is doing. He sits back and waits or he restricts himself to making declarations that the round table is necessary. That is why I, albeit not an economist, concentrate my attention, first of all, on economic issues. What did we do in this domain over the past three weeks. Above all we passed to the Sejm two drafts of arch-important laws—first one on the economic activity and the other—on the foreign capital share in our economy. The first draft is aimed, I may put it in such a nutshell, at creating the conditions for unrestrained, really unrestrained economic activity in all the sectors of our economy. The point is simply to take off, from this producer who is acting already now or from that one who will be operating tomorrow, this straitjacket which is woven of the numerous regulations, red-tape directives, woven often of incomprehensible prejudices towards the producer, the thing is to create genuine and free conditions for producers, as the moods of the nation, simply our destinies, hinge on the increase of production.

Such is reality and such will it be, anyway. Conclusive will be how much we will produce, how much will be left for distribution.

Of course, these were not the only two issues we dealt with over recent several weeks. Many various decisions made are on a list of various issues examined by the Council of Ministers or its economic committee. I cannot enlist them all as there is no time for that. Secondly, I assume a priori that our audience, my audience, excuse me, reads press, listens to the radio and watches TV.

But the list includes several such regulations which are of essential importance for, as I have already said, the entire society or specific social groups. For instance, the Council of Ministers adopted the bill on the social fund for farmers. It refers to a definite number of people about whom one can say that they will be glad since the draft is very realistic, simply based on realities, on this reality in which this group of people lives for whom the law will be of basic significance.

We also introduced changes in our foreign currency policy. The point is to put in order foreign currency market in Poland, and to create more suitable conditions for foreign currency circulation. So there are many such issues. And

there were many already examined. All of them, as I believe, lead to formulating a conclusion that we are really dealing with cleaning our economy and our economic life of all this which was—I would say—either irrational or simply unfavourable for a growth of industrial and agricultural production. I am sorry that I persistently come back to the production growth but it is really of the greatest significance for the situation in which we found ourselves.

In a moment I will speak about three other issues which are on my mind. First, the change of a concept of the automotive industry development. Much has been written about it recently and it has been still discussed in different milieus and in Polish families, and I am very glad because of it. It is a concrete problem and society's attitude towards the proposals made by Minister Wilczek is not indifferent to the entire economic policy. I will not repeat everything but I want to say that this decision as well as the decision to close down the Siechnice steelworks, and all others to liquidate some departments or plants—this decision is a consequence of the assumption we accepted that it was necessary to rationalize the Policy economy.

In other words, this is a decision which proves the rightness and need of realization of a thesis on putting many things right. Thus, it has been the first issue out of the three I have wanted to discuss.

The second will surely generate interest among the whole society—we were speaking about it several week ago. The Council of Ministers adopted a regulation, to be announced soon, on the procedure or principles of granting passports.

I will describe in a few words the sense of this regulation. Firstly, it specifies terms on which passports will be granted. One passport will be valid for the whole world, and will be given for the periods of two, five or ten years. Depending on this, charges will be collected. Every citizen will be allowed to decide whether he will keep a passport at home or at the passports office.

I assume that most Poles will be willing to have passports at home. It is here that the essence of this regulation lies.

Third issue I would like to speak about is my greatest trouble, that is growing inflation, a race between wages and prices. The market situation is not good. Whatever appears on market immediately vanishes. One must state that this totally threatens the economic reform.

I realize that appeals are effective to a limited extent and that they will not heal the economy. However, I would like to ask my compatriots not to hoard unnecessarily and to confide [as received] in the Polish zloty. We really want to strengthen it and we believe that this is feasible. Next year we are going to make decisions aimed at this.

But the point is that we will not strengthen the money without citizens' co-participation. This participation is indispensable. Hence my appeal counts in advance that its effects will be limited.

Concluding, I would like to say that we will not meet before Christmas. Thus, I wish you peaceful Christmas and satisfaction over our activies. The issues I have discussed just now will also be touched upon at our next meeting before the new year. I wish you good and quiet Sunday.

Transcript of Urban's 6 Dec Press Conference

AU1212093288 Warsaw RZECZPOSPOLITA in Polish 7 Dec 88 pp 1, 5, 6

["Transcript" of press conference given by Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban at the INTERPRESS Center in Warsaw on 7 December]

[Text] Government Spokesman Jerzy Urban met foreign and Polish journalists at his weekly press conference, which was held on 6 December. The conference was attended by Hungarian Government Spokesman Gyorgy Marosan, who has been visiting our country. The transcript of the conference appears below.

Urban: The Western press has been ignoring some facts that are important for the course of events in Poland. For example, the information about a strong and rapid increase in support for and confidence in the government that I provided at last week's press conference—information that came from Colonel Kwiatkowski—was deliberately ignored with good reason. Something else that was ignored was my statement that we know that Poland will not obtain loans from the West and that the hurdle presented by the political conditions that the West attaches to economic cooperation with Poland is constantly being raised.

Apart from being very selective in its treatment of political facts and only picking out facts that serve to illustrate its political theses, which have been formulated a priori, the Western press does not want to or cannot establish mutual connections between individual events in Poland.

The closure of the Gdansk shipyard, placing the government-run television network at Lech Walesa'a disposal so that he could say whatever he wanted to (besides, there will be more debates of this kind), and informing Lech Walesa that he can collect his passport and go to Paris are events that should be viewed together. All these facts, and they are not the only ones, are connected with one another.

All these interconnected facts mean that the authorities, that Rakowski's government, have stopped pursuing a policy of excessive caution. We stopped being afraid of radical reform. We are shedding our old look, while retaining our ideological identity. We have stopped being afraid of our opponents and our opposition partners, we are not in the least bit afraid of any opposition of whatever shade.

We are not afraid of the strikes that might take place next year. They would pose a threat to the Poles' standard of living, but would not destabilize the state and prompt a frightened reaction on the part of the authorities.

What is the source of this courage of ours?

It stems from the fact that we are resolutely implementing reforms by changing what has existed until now, and by creating entirely new relations and a qualitatively new situation in Poland. It stems from the fact that, as the reform camp, as the camp that is initiating and heading the process of change, we are acquiring more and more public support. We know that it will not grow all the time, that it will decline and then increase, but we are counting on growing support being the predominant long-term trend.

The radical and by now irreversible nature of restructuring [Russian word used] in the USSR encourages us to be increasingly bolder.

Socialism has extracted itself from the torpor in which it was stuck and is now negotiating a hairpin bend.

In a few years' time, Poland will be a country with a different economy, other economic and political mechanisms, other relations, and different attitudes on the part of citizens and the authorities.

We are not an ox that is being drawn along by historical trends and laws. We are bearing our historical responsibility by directing these changes, providing them with an impetus, and shaping their concrete form. We are the only ones who have a program and the instruments to put this into practice. At the moment, others are only reviewing things, are becoming lost among these events, are stunned by them, and are gaping at the past.

We want to draw them into constructive cooperation, and we are doing that.

We are now working intensively on changes for next year. The law on associations—a new form of sociopolitical pluralism—will already be in operation and yielding results in 1989. It will be a year of accord, amendments to the Constitution, and elections based on modified principles. It will be a year in which there will be a fundamental increase in economic initiative, the doors will be opened wider to foreign capital, the laws of the market will operate more extensively, ordinary life will become more efficient, the zloty will be partially convertible, and our currency will be strengthened. It will also be a year in which the political machine that separates out those who have not adapted to these new times will make more revolutions and will do so with more force. This applies to people of various political hues, including the extremist opposition, who voice the most radical slogans, but who essentially do not realize what is happening, that socialism is drawing another breath, that it is is changing its skin, and that their rigid opposition to every form of socialism is turning into conservative opposition to change.

Barbara Drozdz, ZYCIE WARSZAWY: Mr Minister, I would like to ask whether there has been a change in the attitude toward Walesa? After all, you have always said that he is only a private individual.

Urban: Yes, there has. The Walesa who took part in the television debate, and, even more so, the Walesa of the press conference on the day after his television appearance was a different Walesa from the one who has acted in a confrontational spirit on several occasions over the last few years and was even speaking in an aggressive tone at St Brygida's Church just a few days' earlier. It is true that he did not speak about delivering punches—PAP corrected this—but he did speak in a confrontational tone.

Will this new Walesa who is developing into a partner turn out to be permanent, and will he maintain the tone that was the predominant tone in the statements he made on television? I think so. Everyone in politics maintains an attitude that brings them success, public support, and recognition outside the country.

Barbara Drozdz: How do you view the Walesa-Miodowicz dialogue?

Urban: Positively. What counts is the effect, the shift away from extremism and a tendency toward confrontation that Walesa had displayed just a few days before, when he spoke at St Brygida's Church. The Miodowicz-Walesa debate creates better prospects for a roundtable and national accord, and that is what matters to us. That is also what mattered to Alfred Miodowicz, as he avoided engaging in polemics and, while presenting the stance of the OPZZ, he sought to provide Walesa with a springboard that would enable him to jump into the current of accord.

Before the television debate, Walesa told the press that he was afraid of some kind of trap. The television debate project was indeed a trap for Walesa, but it was not one that he was afraid of, and he did walk into it. It was a trap that was intended to place him within the boundaries of the line of accord.

I would like to say that, on the one hand preparations for a roundtable are still in progress; a television debate that guaranteed Lech Walesa complete freedom of expression has taken place, Walesa will go abroad for the first time in years; but, on the other hand, the base of this accord and of the goodwill that is being created is fragile.

Last Sunday, in the streets of Jastrzebie-Zdroj, people who consider Lech Walesa their leader shouted: "Dispatch communism to Powazki Cemetery," "There is no freedom without Solidarity," and "Down with Communism." Why do none of the opposition activists who publicly express a desire for accord and a dislike of confrontation distance themselves from political events of this kind?

Kay Withers, THE SUN: This is the first of four questions. Have dates and details of further meetings in front of television cameras already been established?

Urban: I do not know what Polish Television is planning in this respect.

Kay Withers: There have been some rumors concerning the criminals who murdered Father Popieluszko. Last week I asked if any of them had been freed, and you promised that you would find out and tell me. Could you now tell us whether all of them really have been freed?

Urban: My deepest apologies, I have overlooked this matter, but we will not have to wait until next week. Perhaps we can have this checked now, and I shall try to provide an answer toward the end of the conference.

Kay Withers: My next question concerns Katyn. ZYCIE WARSZAWY reported that experts involved in the work of the mixed Polish-Soviet commission that is examining the Katyn question have provided the Soviet side with documents of Western and Polish origin, and that these document have not in any way been called into question by the Soviet side. However, it has been stated that further research is needed, that further investigation is essential. It is also being said that the Soviet side does not have full access to some important archives, including those of the former NKVD. This means that at present the only concrete aspect of the Soviet side's position is that the Stalinist version of the course of events at Katyn has been called into question. Is it possible that the Polish side will adopt a concrete position on this issue, without waiting for the Soviet side to make a decision?

Urban: I confirm this; besides, it was also stated in the report on the meeting of the Polish-Soviet historians' commission that the Polish side had submitted Western documents as well as the information that could be collected in Poland, and that doubts were not expressed about these documents. However, I do not know anything about the extent to which and the way in which Soviet scholars have access to Soviet archives. The most important thing for us is that during his visit to Poland, Mikhail Gorbachev expressed a desire and a determination to have this and similar subjects thoroughly examined. The Polish side has nothing to announce unilaterally, because this has to be based on facts, and the facts have to be sought in the Soviet Union. The Soviet side has a concrete position, and this position has been articulated by the most authoritative person.

Kay Withers: Premier Rakowski has said that one of the three main aspects of his program is combating pollution of the environment. However, the joint communique that was released following the premier's visit to the GDR does not mention anything about environmental protection issues, although the south-west of Poland is very much affected by pollution that originates in East Germany. In light of this, I would like to know why the joint communique made no mention of these issues?

Urban: This was because a draft agreement between Poland, the GDR, and Czechoslovakia on environmental protection had been worked out earlier and has, therefore, already acquired substantive form, which means that there was no need for more impetus at the highest government level. Before the agreement is signed, there will be another meeting to draw up a concrete program for the years 1989-90, which will deal with these matters in terms of concrete industrial plants that pollute the atmosphere or waters, or can do so, and will indicate preventive measures and set implementation dates.

Tadeusz Zakrzewski, Television News: Mr Minister, although you are the government spokesman and not the party's spokesman, you are normally very well informed about party matters. In view of this, could you tell us when the next Central Committee plenum will take place, and perhaps what it will deal with?

Urban: The Politburo might set a date for a plenum today, but in any case there will be one before the end of December.

Boguslaw Turek, AP: I have three short questions. Will Prof Geremek receive a passport so that he can accompany Mr Walesa on his visit to France?

Urban: The question of issuing a passport to Mr Geremek is being examined. However, as Western radio stations have been reporting that Lech Walesa has told journalists that he will not go to France without Geremek, I do not exclude the possibility that the university teacher will receive a positive reply to his application for a passport. A positive response seems likely, although the matter has not been settled yet.

At the last press conference, you denied that there had been any kind of increase in how roughly the militia treat demonstrators, but 3 hours later, on the very same day, I saw the Militia attack a group of young people who had organized an event outside the "Centrum" buildings. They were not throwing stones, which was the case in Gdansk, but distributing pretzels to onlookers and Militia officers and shouting bon appetit. I would like to know why they were beaten.

Urban: I cannot answer a question put in this way, that is, that you say you saw something and that is why you have a question, because I did not have an opportunity to witness the same event. I can only say in general terms that the Militia does not use batons in the same way as a bad father or a bad mother does, that is, as a way of punishing a child. However, it is one of the ways in which force is used to ensure order, and to ensure respect for the law when some demonstration takes place that has not been approved by the authorities. In short, force is sometimes used to make people respect the law. That is a general

statement. I can add that the Militia has seldom used batons in recent years, and that it has only done so when there was an obvious need to do so. However, this general statement does not apply to the situation that you described. There are so many events in Poland now that I do not know what happens at all of them.

Boleslaw Turek: What is happening regarding the "Solidarity" public foundation? Apparently, some talks were recently held on this subject, and is it true that the mayor of Glogow was dismissed from his post for using the word Solidarity when he thanked Solidarity for a new ambulance?

Urban: The minister of health and social welfare recommended changes to the foundation's draft statute. The people behind the establishment of the foundation did not agree with these changes and submitted the matter to a court. This will now be settled by a court. So, there is no disagreement about the foundation, there is only a disagreement about the statute. I do not know anything about the dismissal of the mayor of Glogow. I do not know if he has been dismissed, and if so, for what reason.

Waldemar Janiec, PAP: Mr Minister, what is the government's position on the harassment of Polish tourists at border crossing-points?

Urban: We do not question the rights of other countries to protect their markets and customs interests. Poland is also a country in which tourists buy up goods in commercial quantities. This has a negative effect, especially in some regions, on the ability of Polish citizens to meet their shopping needs. We have made the Polish customs service work more intensively to protect our public interests, so we can understand why others are doing the same thing.

However, we object and we will continue to object to the introduction of changes to regulations and customs practices with respect to Poles when this is done without sufficient warning and travellers are not informed, that is, when such moves come as a surprise. I think that there will be few incidents of this kind.

Now, as far as protecting the Polish market is concerned, that is, preventing mass purchases on a commercial scale, the following tighter measures have been introduced: Only individual items that have a value that does not exceed Z10,000 and total goods worth no more than Z20,000 will be duty-free. It has been recommended that people who seek to take larger amounts of goods out of the country be stopped at the border or that such goods be held by the customs service. Goods will be held by the customs service for a shorter period of time. Customs officials have been reminded that foreigners have to pay duties with money that has been obtained through the legal conversion of currency. Customs teams have been strengthened. Controls on imports of goods have been reduced, and controls on exports have been stepped up. These actions have already produced some results.

Andrew Tarnowski, REUTER: Mr Minister, I would like to ask a double question, if such a thing is possible. The first part of the question is: Have the authorities taken any steps with respect to Solidarity following the television debate between Walesa and Mr Miodowicz?

Urban: I do not understand your question.

Andrew Tarnowski: The questions was had there been any contacts with Solidarity following the debate?

Urban: No.

Andrew Tarnowski: The second part of my question is: Mr Minister, you said that there has been a change in the attitude toward Lech Walesa. Does this mean that there has been a change in the attitude toward Solidarity?

Urban: Solidarity does not operate legally in Poland. Our attitude is changing and will change with regard to all those people, as well as former Solidarity activists, including those grouped around Lech Walesa, who will abandon a confrontational attitude and adopt an attitude that is conducive to accord. What I have just said is nothing new, we have been saying this for years in the form: It is not important where someone comes from, what is important is his present attitude.

Reino Werher, FRG Radio: Yesterday TRYBUNA LUDU reported that one of the subjects that Premier Rakowski will discuss during his talks is the demarcation of waters in the Pomeranian Bay. In light of this, I would like to ask whether this was discussed during the talks, and what the outcome was?

Urban: I do not know anything about any such announcements, and this issue was not discussed during the talks in the GDR, because it is currently being examined by experts. This was stated by Ambassador Staniszewski and the spokesman of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at a press conference given on 24 November, where it was announced that it has been agreed that the ports of Szczecin and Swinoujscie had free access to the high seas and that only points of detail had to be cleared. The talks will continue. The next meeting of experts will take place in Berlin shortly. We are optimistic about the results. So, this was not the time, nor was there a need, to raise this issue at the highest level, because it has already descended from a higher level than that of premier—namely, the Jaruzelski-Honecker level—and is now in the hands of experts in maritime law and shipping issues.

John Daniszewski, AP: Mr Minister, a well-informed government source has indicated to us that a price policy for next year is currently being considered, and that it is a policy involving options. The first option envisages a 50-percent increase in the prices of basic goods, and the second option envisages a 70-percent increase. Can you tell us when this policy will be announced, and whether these will be one-shot increases, or will the increases be spread out over the whole year?

Urban: These sources that you have used are not that well informed. The plan for next year that is being drawn up at present envisages neither 50-percent nor 70-percent increases. The figure of 50-percent might be a possible inflation index that takes account of the price increases that have already been introduced this year. In any case, we envisage much lower increases than those that you mentioned next year and they will, of course, only apply to certain categories of goods. For example, they might apply to: energy, coal, and probably to municipal transportation, rents, and to a certain, but modest degree, to foodstuffs, for which procurement prices have greatly increased. However, we do not expect inflation to remain at the same level, but to decline. When will these things be announced? They will be announced shortly. Work on giving precise form to the plan for the consolidation of the economy has reached its final stages, and so has work on its offshoot, the annual plan. As soon the government approves them, there will be an announcement.

I would like to return to the question asked by Kay Withers, which I was unable to answer. None of the people sentenced for the murder of Father Popieluszko have been released.

Kay Withers, THE SUN: Why have Pekala and Chielewski not been released? Because their sentences have been reduced, one would think they ought to be released.

Urban: I think your calculations are erroneous, madam. I have received authoritative information which is exactly the same as what I have just told you. No one has had his sentence waived. Perhaps you have parole in mind?

Helmut Fielko, GDR radio: The third question about Premier Rakowski's GDR visit yesterday. I am concerned not only with the individual aspects of this visit, but also with our mutual relations as a whole. What part of the published communique deserves emphasis? What do you consider to be the most important aspects of this visit?

Urban: It is very difficult to say, because everything in this communique is important—the statements on the subject of European affairs and disarmament, the stability of borders, and numerous bilateral issues. What is important is that this was the new Polish premier's first meeting with the GDR premier and Erich Honecker. The GDR is our third biggest trade partner. It was decided that trade will increase by 8 percent next year, a considerable increase. And it really is difficult for me to evaluate the topics discussed, although peace and disarmament are obviously more important than mutual trade.

Janusz Grochowski, ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI: Has Poland recognized the Palestinian state?

Urban: Recognition of the Palestinian state has never been discussed between the socialist countries. Assuming that this state has neither its own territory nor government, Poland has said that when a government does come into existence, we will be ready to recognize it.

Besides, today is not the first time that Poland recognizes the Palestinian people's aspirations toward their own state. Evidence of this is the fact that there has been a PLO ambassador for many years.

Renate Marsch, DPA: You said that there are better chances of holding the "roundtable" now that the television debate has taken place. And yet during this debate, Mr Walesa made it quite clear that he sees no purpose in holding the "roundtable," and no chance of reaching agreement on trade union pluralism. Does the government maintain the view that until the economic situation improves, there can only be one trade union in each enterprise, as Mr Jaruzelski said in Ursus?

Urban: This is not the first time and not the last time that the views of Mr Walesa and Mr Urban are different. We have presented our stance concerning the future of the trade union movement. We said that in accordance with the 1982 Trade Union Act, pluralism is a natural condition for the trade union movement. However, the implementation of this pluralism was suspended by resolution of the State Council until the right conditions for a pluralistic trade union movement occur. Wojciech Jaruzelski discussed these conditions in Ursus. They include making the economy strong enough to withstand trade union claims during the initial stage of radical reforms. Another condition in that first of all we must establish maneuvering space for pluralistic political activity, to which Mr Walesa also aspires, in order to separate trade union affairs from political affairs, and leave trade union affairs in the hands of the unions and political affairs within the scope of political life, including future parliamentary life. All this is to prevent an explosive mixture of economic and political claims, manifesting itself in political strikes to which people are drawn by means of attractive economic slogans, from appearing in economic units. As we know, all this will be discussed at the "roundtable." Both sides construe the concept of "roundtable" as a way of discussing the creation of conditions for a Polish trade union model, which will be pluralistic in future. This very topic is due to be discussed by one of the "roundtable" problems teams. Right now preparations, technical talks, are still taking place, and I believe that the"roundtable" will convene on the basis of the principle that we meet with no pre-conditions and no taboo subjects. In this respect, I am an unshakable optimist.

Stefan Dietrich, FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG: I would like to return to the trilateral agreement between Poland, the GDR, and Czechoslovakia on environmental protection. It seems that this agreement says nothing about compensation for environmental damage. As recently as October, TRYBUNA LUDU made no secret of the fact that Poland wants an answer to the problem of water pollution, which transcends the border. In that case, is the Polish Government satisfied with this agreement?

Urban: The question of compensation simply requires further negotiations. I consider it very important that all three sides have committed themselves to reducing pollution in these areas. Of course, the discharge of these

commitments will be fundamental for the condition of the environment. Their discharge is costly, but it will safeguard each country's interests better than any compensation. However, I repeat, the question of compensation requires further negotiations. After all, this is an unprecedented agreement, perhaps the first of its kind in the world.

Em Epelbaum, Die in Kolen [as published, source not known]: Could you confirm the date when the two acts governing economic activity will take effect, and explain to what extent the amendments we read about in the press will affect these acts?

Urban: Whose amendments?

Em Epelbaum: I read in the press that some sort of amendments would be made to these bills. I wanted to know what these amendments are about and to what extent they will affect the acts.

Urban: I am asking because the government has indeed made alterations to the bills, which were presented by the previous government. If these are the amendments you mean, they have been carried out, and the bills have been presented before the Sejm. Of course, the Sejm can either accept them, or reject them, or make its own alterations, and right now Sejm commissions are working on these acts. Whether the Sejm will make any amendments, and what sort of amendments, is still not known. However, the government's alterations are considerably changing the shape of previous acts. In particular, they are freeing the economic activity act from various restrictions. For example, the restrictions on the size of employment in the private sector are being eliminated, and this is a very important change. An entire list of exceptions to the act is being eliminated, in other words only very few different kinds of economic activity will now require concessions, for example the manufacture of firearms, drugs, and things like that. Another important change is that the government can no longer issue directives which restrict the scope of the act. Such government alterations have changed many draft laws significantly. We expect the Sejm to pass this act this year, as well as the act on a central planning office, which will make a major change to the structure of economic management. This is the dowry which the government will receive on 1 January, so as to enter the new year under new management conditions.

Em Epelbaum: When will these laws be passed?

Urban: I do not know, I have no calendar of Sejm activity in front of me. The Sejm Press Office will tell you if a date had already been recorded.

Yousif Mahid, WAFA: In reply to the question from your ZOLNIERZ WOLNOSCI colleague, you mentioned borders. Israel has no borders to this very day, and yet Poland recognizes Israel and maintained diplomatic relations with it until 1967. Secondly, if one can take this to mean that Poland is going to cooperate with this government when it emerges, the PLO Executive Committee is assuming the functions of this government [sentence as published].

Urban: First, I did not discuss borders. I discussed territory. Second, Poland cooperates with all PLO bodies, whatever their names are. It is cooperating with the present PLO bodies, including the Executive Committee.

Yusif Mahid: In that case, how are we to understand UN Resolution No. 181 about the division of Palestine into two states?

Urban: Poland voted for this resolution. However, the chain of events was such that two states did not emerge. I am not a historian.

John Daniszewski, AP: A moment ago, you said that certain talks of a technical nature are being held concerning the preparations for the "roundtable." I would like to know when exactly these technical talks were held, and between whom. I am asking because I talked to those taking part in these "roundtable" preparations, and I found out that no one had resorted to such talks.

Urban: Well, you found out wrong. These talks are being held quite regularly. I will not tell you who is taking part, because this is confidential, for the good of the cause.

Monika Olejnik, Polish Radio: I would like to know if the government realizes the danger of AIDS. The latest data shows that there are more and more cases of AIDS among drug addicts. There have been 10 such cases in Warsaw alone since 1 August. Will the government undertake any action in this direction? After all, our hospitals are not exactly at the top of the league when it comes to technical equipment and hygiene. For example, the rehabilitation unit in Sobieski Street only has six beds for such drug addicts, only 6 beds.

Urban: At its latest session, the government's Sociopolitical Committee assessed the implementation of the Health Ministry's anti-AIDS program. It transpires that a hospital department for AIDS cases, a day clinic for treating AIDS, and many other undertakings involving protecting the blood bank are being prepared, requiring heavy foreign currency outlay. The program also involves many other undertakings. Consider the plan of these undertakings. It includes improving the supply of contraceptives, increasing the production of disposible syringes, and so on. However, even though drug addiction involving injections increases the danger of AIDS, the battle against drug addiction is, medically, socially, and organizationally, totally different from the battle against AIDS. Thus, the shortage of beds for drug addicts has no direct bearing on the AIDS problem.

Stefan Dietrich, FRANKFURTER ALLGEMEINE ZEITUNG: Central Committee proposals for the national economic consolidation plan were published at the

beginning of November. Now, 1 month later, talks have started, not on the subject of the Central Committee proposals, but on the subject of the government's version of the plan. This version has been criticized quite sharply, but no one knows exactly what it says. Do you not think that first of all one should publish a plan and then discuss it, and not vice versa?

Urban: The Central Committee worked out principles, in other words general suggestions and a list of intentions. On the basis of these principles, the government worked out a draft national economic consolidation plan. Now this draft is being discussed, and very soon a final version will be drafted and published, after which this final version will be discussed. Among other things, agreements have been reached between, on the one hand, the experts who drafted the principles and who, according to the communique from the Central Committee Economic Commission session, criticized the plan, and, on the other hand, the authors of the government draft. This is normal procedure in matters as important as the economy. It is natural that views should differ and that there is a many-sided discussion. The only thing wrong would be if this discussion took too long.

Stefan Dietrich: In that case, can you explain what stage the government draft has reached? Is it still in the discussion stage, or has a final version already been placed before the Politburo?

Urban: A final version has not been made public, but I expect this will happen soon.

Lopuszanski, INTERPRESS: Is it true that Mr Pietrzak, director of the FSO car plant, has resigned?

Urban: Yes, it is true, and as far as I know, the minister of industry has accepted his resignation. The reason behind the resignation is an important one. The new government, or, to be more exact, the new minister of industry, Mieczyslaw Wilczek, came up with a different development plan for the FSO plant in Zeran than the previous one. The new plan involves cooperation with Fiat. Wilczek's plan is not to build any more small-capacity cars in Zeran, but to build them in Tychy and Bielsko-Biala. Production would then be easier and cheaper, because it is easier to produce one model than two. There would be less outlay, because there would only have to be spare parts for one model. What is important is that many more cars would be produced that are more easily available to Polish consumers, because they would be cheaper. The production of popular cars would be much greater. Finally, it would be easier to sell a car that is not manufactured outside Poland, and those wanting larger cars could obtain them by importing them or exchanging their small-capacity vehicles for medium-capacity ones. This concept has received preliminary approval from the Fiat management, because Minister Wilczek discussed it with them. I think this plan is a rational one, and it also enjoys the preliminary approval of the premier and the chairman of the Council of Ministers Economic Committee. Director Pietrzak, who drew up the previous plan, has reacted to the present one by resigning, which he has explained in detail. Today, Minister Wilczek told me that he had accepted his resignation.

Renate Marsch, DPA: I wanted to ask the same thing, but I have another question. How has Fiat reacted? A contract was to be signed with Fiat before the end of the year. Will a new contract be drawn up, or will there be a contractual fine?

Urban: This change of plan is not yet final. It is just an idea that has been discussed and has gained preliminary approval. If you want to know the technical details, in other words whether Minister Wilczek's plan will gain final approval and how this will affect legal-contractual relations with Fiat, please ask the Ministry of Industry. I cannot give such details right now. All I can say is that Minister Wilczek's proposal is gaining supporters, and that it has a great chance of obtaining the government's support.

Kay Withers, THE SUN: Earlier on, you said that "Solidarity" is not a legal organization, but on the other hand Lech Walesa has been invited to take part in the "roundtable" and to talk to General Kiszczak. Walesa is invited to appear on TV and is given 40 minutes of prime air time. Then the government press spokesman extolls this debate. All this induces me to ask for an explanation. If the government considers "Solidarity" to be illegal, does it treat it as the kind of illegal organization that is awaiting legalization?

Urban: It is true that "Solidarity" has not been legalized, and it is also true that we have never turned our backs on former or present members who say that they want it to be legal. One has to draw a line between the legality of a trade union and our constant aim for accord with people who describe themselves in various ways and have various informal union connections, but who nevertheless play some political role in the life of Poland and may become partners of dialogue and accord. To put it briefly, our attitude toward "Solidarity" has never rubbed off on its members. As far as its members are concerned, our attitude toward them varies. We hold a different attitude toward Mr Morawiecki, a different one toward Mr Walesa, and a different one toward Mr Miodowicz, who is also from "Solidarity."

Wieslaw Wesolowski, TRYBUNA ROBOTNICZA: Will ration coupons for meat and gasoline be abolished in the new year, and will there be extra rations of fuel, extra qualifying points to be able to buy a car, and perhaps a rationing of supply commodities?

Urban: The government's intention was and is to abolish all these forms of rationing. However, there are still no concrete decisions. As far as meat coupons are concerned, abolishing them depends on the size of meat supplies. One has to be certain that meat supplies will be sufficiently large, otherwise prices would have to be kept in check, if

not by ration coupons, then by the market, and we do not want excessive price increases. On 1 January we intend to abolish meat ration coupons in one voivodship, after which we will monitor the meat market in that voivodship until June. Then, in July, if possible, we will suggest an abolition of ration coupons everywhere, and in such a way that it gains society's approval. For one must realize that most of Polish society, and this has already been investigated, is in favor of the retention of meat rationing. However, we have certain concepts which I think would alter this state of affairs and would encourage a voluntary discontinuation of meat rationing.

We also intend to abolish gasoline rationing as of 1 April, but this also depends on the possibility of steady supplies of gasoline, and so there is no firm decision in this matter either. However, here, too, we envisage a transitional solution.

As far as purchase points for cars are concerned, there is also a plan to abolish these. However, this would involve a price increase, or the application of contractual prices to cars, instead of the official prices at present. There is no decision on this matter either, but there are far-reaching plans. Finally, as far as supplies of production resources are concerned, administrative controls over these supplies will definitely be reduced. However, there has to be some measure of administrative control over the distribution of certain commodities, such as gold, wolfram, and some other special types of raw materials. Hence, there is a will, there is a desire, but obviously we must proceed cautiously. So there are still no decisions.

Tadeusz Kucharski, TIME: Are there no fears of expeditions from all over Poland to this one voivodship where meat rationing has been abolished?

Urban: No, because one can buy meat on the free market quite easily all over Poland.

Henryk Sroczynski, GLOS ROBOTNICZY: The government gives housing construction second place in its list of priorities. Is the government preparing any decisions that will break the bottleneck in housing construction?

Urban: The government has already done something. It has drafted, and the Sejm has accepted, a program of acquiring and preparing land for building, increasing the production of building materials and other products for the building industry, and increasing production capacity in all sectors of this industry and expanding various forms of construction. There is already a housing construction development fund, and it is possible to take advantage of the industrial structural changes fund in order to expand the production of building materials. This program is currently being implemented, but its effects will not been seen until later, because the program merely involves creating the conditions for more housing construction. The actual construction will come later. However, the national economic consolidation plan, which we have not published yet, foresees the following additional features: consultations on new principles of housing policy, equal financial priorities for all manufacturers of building materials, a uniform and stable economic and financial system for building enterprises, and more money for building accommodation and for acquiring land and carrying out maintenance work. It is foreseen that the manufacturers of building materials will be exempt from taxes not for 3-5 years, as is the case at present, but for 10 years. Also, there are plans to change the rules concerning the financing of cooperative construction, whereby the present principle of applying standard costs will be abolished, and credits for the actual full costs of construction will be given. These financial priorities, earned by manufacturing building materials, will apply to all sectors of the national economy. This is a very strong policy that favors housing.

Krzysztof Pilawski, SZTANDAR MLODYCH: I would like to ask if the professional futures of former Premier Messner and Deputy Premiers Szalajda and Sadowski have been decided upon.

Urban: No.

Joint Plenum Resolution on Ceausescu Report

AU0512154888 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 1 Dec 88 p 2

["Resolution on Endorsing the Speech Made by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP Secretary General and President of the SR of Romania, and on Its Adoption as a Program of Revolutionary Work and Action of the Party and of the Whole Nation" adopted at the conclusion of the joint plenum of the RCP and other workers democratic bodies, on 30 November in Bucharest]

[Text] The participants in the joint meeting of the plenum of the RCP Central Committee and the other democratic bodies and mass and civic organizations, held on 28-30 November 1988 in an atmosphere of deep patriotic enthusiasm, unanimously endorse the report by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the SR of Romania on: the current stage and future development prospects of the Romanian socialist society; the perfecting of socioeconomic management; the development of the revolutionary workers' democracy; the role of the state and its democratic bodies; the increase in the RCP's role; ideological, political, and educational activity; the growth of the scientific and cultural level and of revolutionary awareness; and the balance of power and the basic features of the international situation.

The plenum highly values the revolutionary activity carried out with self-denial, creative spirit, and ardent patriotism by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu—the most beloved son of our nation, outstanding leader of our party and state, wise founder and strategist of modern Socialist Romania and of its progress on the victorious road of socialism and communism, brilliant thinker, prominent personality of our times, consistent militant for the firm application and the assertion of the principles of socialism and communism, and the hero of peace, of friendship, and of cooperation among all nations.

Being convinced that, through the exemplary implementation of the new theses and guidelines elaborated by the secretary general of our party, our country will move on to a new level of progress and of socialist and communist civilization, the participants in the plenum decide that the report presented by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu—a document of exceptional theoretical and practical value, one which defines the directions of Romania's future development—should become the program for the revolutionary work and action of Communists, of our whole nation, of all the bodies and party, mass, and civic organizations, and of the bodies of the revolutionary workers' democracy to mobilize all the working people in uniting their creative efforts to build a comprehensively developed socialist society and to ensure our homeland's firm progress toward communism.

The plenum decides that the appreciations, guidelines, and conclusions of this masterly document should lay the foundation of our whole activity of preparing and carrying out the proceedings of the 14th RCP Congress, the new 1991-95 5-Year Plan, and the program for the development of Socialist Romania up to the year 2000.

The plenum enthusiastically calls on all Communists, party bodies and organizations, mass and civic organizations, and the bodies of revolutionary workers' democracy, and on our entire nation to work with high revolutionary spirit and to devote all their working and creative power to the exemplary implementation of the masterful report presented by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu—a brilliant program of raising socialist, free, sovereign, and independent Romania to increasingly higher peaks of progress and civilization.

RCP Plenum Resolution

AU0912150988 Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian 3 Dec 88 pp 1, 5

["Resolution of the Joint Session of the RCP Central Committee Plenum, Democratic Bodies, and Mass and Public Organizations" held in Bucharest on "28-30 November 1988"]

[Text] Under the chairmanship of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, RCP secretary general and president of the Socialist Republic of Romania, the proceedings of the joint session of the RCP Central Committee plenum, democratic bodies, and mass and publication organizations took place from 28-30 November 1988—a political event of the greatest importance in our party's and country's life. These bodies, in an atmosphere of great responsibility, communist exactingness, and strong patriotic and revolutionary involvement, discussed the following agenda:

1. The current stage of the Romanian socialist society and future prospects for development, the improvement of socioeconomic management, and the development of workers revolutionary democracy; the role of the state and of democratic bodies. Enhancing the role of the RCP and ideological and political-educational activity, and improving the level of scientific knowledge, of culture, and revolutionary awareness. The balance of forces and basic characteristics of the international situation.

2. Draft Uniform National Plan on the Socioeconomic Development of the Socialist Republic of Romania for 1989.

3. Draft Plan on the Development of Agriculture, Food Industry, Forestry, and Water Administration for 1989.

4. Draft Centralized Financial Plan on Socioeconomic Activity and Draft State Budget for 1989.

5. Draft Self-Management and Self-Sufficiency Program for Ensuring Proper Supplies of Agricultural Produce, Foodstuffs, and Industrial Consumer Goods to the Population for 1989.

The plenum highly values the masterly speech given by the party secretary general, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, which constitutes a thorough scientific study—based on the dialectical-materialist and historic concept—of the road covered by the Romanian people throughout their existence, of the rich Romanian experience in building socialism, of our socialist society's development in the current stage and in the future, and a study on developments and phenomena in the international arena, which, through its political and theoretical tenor, constitutes a programmatic document of exceptional significance for the many-sided activity of the party and our people. It also is a noteworthy contribution to the creative and consistent application of the general truths and principles of scientific socialism to the specific conditions and realities in Romania and to enriching the national and international treasury of revolutionary theory and practice, and the present-day sociopolitical thinking.

With feelings of fervent patriotic pride and great gratitude, the plenum fully endorses the theses, ideas, and guidelines of priceless value formulated by the party secretary general, and enthusiastically and unanimously decides that this excellent speech, given by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu in the opening proceedings, will become a program of revolutionary work and action of the party, of the whole nation, and of the party bodies and organization, mass and public bodies, and of all our workers revolutionary democracy bodies to mobilize and rally the creative energy of all working people in our homeland within the great work of building the comprehensively developed socialist society and of raising Romania to new heights of progress and civilization.

The plenum expresses most profound feelings of patriotic pride, great satisfaction, and complete adherence to the prodigious and tireless activity carried out, with revolutionary dedication and great love for the country and people, by our much-beloved and esteemed leader, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, in formulating and implementing the domestic and foreign policy promoted by our party and state, in establishing the strategy of our country's many-sided development, in constantly organizing and perfecting socioeconomic activity, strengthening and strongly affirming workers revolutionary democracy, ensuring a new quality in the life and work of our whole people, and in mobilizing our nation's creative energy to implement the targets put forward by the 13th RCP Congress and the 5th RCP National Conference.

United in thought and deed with the whole party and people, the participants in the plenum voice their feelings of great esteem and appreciation, and of profound gratitude to the party secretary general and president of the Republic, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, hero among the heroes of our nation, enthusiastic patriot and Communist fighter, eminent leader, and excellent founder of modern Socialist Romania, prominent figure of our time, and consistent militant for the firm application of the principles of socialism and communism, for his exemplary life and revolutionary work placed with unequaled dedication and the greatest of devotion in the service of the well-being and happiness of the Romanian people and the constantly greater affirmation of our free, sovereign, and independent homeland among the ranks of states in the world.

The plenum pays warm and fervent homage to Comrade Elena Ceausescu, outstanding politician and scientist of international reputation, for her important contribution to formulating and implementing the plans and programs for our country's socioeconomic development, to the constant progress of Romanian science, education, and culture, and to their ever more prestigious affirmation in the world.

With profound patriotic pride, the plenum stresses the particular significance, in our homeland's continuous revolutionary process, of the Ninth RCP Congress—in the wake of which the Romanian people had the historic chance of having their most beloved son, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, at the helm of their destiny—in promoting an advanced and scientific concept on the major direction of building the new system and perfecting the organization and management of the socioeconomic, political, and cultural activity in accordance with the specific conditions in each stage, a fact that has enabled Romania to turn, in a relatively short period, from a poorly developed country into an agrarian-industrial country in full socioeconomic progress.

Recalling with great satisfaction the image of the tremendous changes occurred in Romanian society, especially in the wake of the Ninth RCP Congress, and inspired by the renewing and revolutionary thinking of our excellent party and state leader, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, the plenum stresses the particular and highly humane value of the party secretary general's scientific thesis on building the new system with the people and for the people in accordance with objective laws and specific-historic conditions in our country, and not on the basis of a borrowed "model." It emphasizes the constant concern with strongly developing workers revolutionary democracy, which ensures the participation of all working people—as owners and producers—and the participation of all our nation in management, the concern with constantly developing and strengthening socialist ownership, the base for our country's constant progress, with firmly applying the socialist principles of remuneration and material incentive, and the concern with becoming acquainted with and understanding the new function of the socialist state and the complex processes and phenomena in the present-day world.

The plenum clearly emphasizes the particular significance and topicality of the theses and ideas of the party secretary general, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, excellent revolutionary thinker, regarding the complex activity of molding the new man with an advanced, dialectical-materialist awareness, who understands the processes

and phenomena in nature and society and participates actively in their change, the conscious and enthusiastic builder of socialism on Romanian soil.

The plenum is paying warm homage to Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu for his comprehensive concept on the position and role of the party in society and on its ever stronger affirmation as the vital core of the nation, for his everlasting merit in restoring the RCP's revolutionary spirit, its dignity and awareness of being the leading political force throughout society, for establishing—stage by stage and on the basis of a profound knowledge of Romanian realities—the strategy for our homeland's socioeconomic development, and for lending a dynamic and profoundly renewing trend to the socialist construction work in our country.

The plenum expresses the firm pledge of the Communists and of all working people to honor the 70th anniversary of the founding of the united Romanian national state with ever new achievements and noteworthy accomplishments, which will ensure the constant implementation of all plans and programs for Romania's socioeconomic development and our dear homeland's constant elevation to the highest pinnacles of progress and civilization.

The plenum fully endorses our party's and state's constructive and dynamic foreign policy, the steps, and initiatives taken at the international level by the party secretary general and president of the Republic, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, who—through all his activities in the service of peace and the progress of nations, through the ideas and theses of cardinal significance put forward in his speech at the joint session, and through the bold measures proposed to solve the great problems of today in the interests of all peoples—has affirmed and continues to affirm himself in the awareness of humanity as a prominent figure in the world political arena, as an excellent promoter of the noble ideals of national independence, sovereignty, understanding, cooperation, and peace, and as a tireless fighter for a better and more just world on our planet, a world without weapons and without wars.

Fully endorsing the assessments of the party secretary general, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, based on a thorough scientific study of the possibilities and available resources, the plenum emphasizes that the results achieved in industry, agriculture, in the organizational and political-educational sector, and in the other areas clearly demonstrate the correctness of the party's and state's policy on the intensive development, at a high rate and on the basis of the most modern achievements of science and technology, of the national economy and the forces of production, and of ensuring a correct balance between the accumulation and consumption fund, constantly increasing the national wealth, and improving—on this basis—the people's material and cultural well-being.

In light of the tasks and guidelines formulated by the party secretary general and by very thoroughly examining shortfalls in some areas in a critical and self-critical spirit, the plenum calls on all party bodies and organizations, ministries and central departments, and on workers revolutionary democracy bodies to constantly perfect their work style and methods and to adopt the most effective political-organizational and material-technical measures to ensure the broad mobilization of the working people's creative energy with a view to implementing—at a high qualitative level—the plans and programs for our country's socioeconomic development and this year's tasks, thus creating a lasting base for implementing the 1989 provisions and those of the overall 5-year plan.

The plenum of the RCP Central Committee, democratic bodies, and mass and public organizations expresses the unanimous will of all Communists, of all working people, and of the whole nation to work, closely united around the party and its secretary general, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, to unflinchingly implement the theses, recommendations, and guidelines included in the masterful speech given at the plenum by our beloved party and state leader, as well as the decisions that have been adopted in order to fulfill this year's plan and the 1989 plan, and the targets of the current 5-year plan efficiently and at a high qualitative level, and to welcome the 14th RCP Congress and the 45th anniversary of the victory of the antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution for the social and national liberation of our homeland with great results.

Examining and unanimously endorsing the Draft Uniform National Plan on the Socioeconomic Development of the Socialist Republic of Romania for 1989, the plenum particularly valued the decisive contribution made by Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu to scientifically corroborate and formulate the draft plan, which is fully in accordance with the decisions of the 13th RCP Congress and the national conference and aims at constantly increasing our homeland's socioeconomic potential and ensuring its move to a new and higher stage of development.

The plenum emphasized that, in the spirit of the party secretary general's guidelines and recommendations, the 1989 plan provisions—a plan which was formulated on the basis of broad consultations with enterprises, industrial centers, and research institutes—and on the basis of studies and programs for developing scientific research and expanding technical progress in all areas, and thus a plan that sums up the will and creative thinking of all working people, ensure the continuation of the process of qualitative-intensive development of all branches of the national economy, the expansion of the raw material and energy base, increased productivity, and higher efficiency and profitability in all areas.

The plenum calls on the government, ministries, industrial centers, enterprises, party bodies and organizations, mass and public organizations, and on the workers

revolutionary democracy bodies to work with great determination and responsibility to thoroughly and smoothly prepare—beginning with the 1st month of 1989—and take all necessary technical and organizational measures to completely fulfill the itemized production, especially export production, strictly observe approved consumption norms, cut back on material expenditure, and make better use of all resources available in our national economy.

Considering the complexity of the 1989 plan tasks, the plenum calls on the management of all economic units, central departments and ministries, coordinating central bodies, the government, the party bodies and organizations, mass and public organizations, and working people's councils to pay—in light of Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's tasks and guidelines—greater attention to the qualitative aspect of development, to unflinchingly and strictly applying the programs aimed at perfecting the organizational work and modernizing the production processes, to making more efficient use of machines and installations, and to strictly observing approved economic-financial norms in order to manufacture products characterized by higher technical parameters and lower material and energy consumption; and to pay attention to introducing perfect order and discipline in the production process and strengthening preventive control in all stages of the manufacturing process up to delivery, so that each product will meet qualitative requirements from all viewpoints.

The plenum calls on the government, ministries, central departments, and all responsible people in the investments sector to properly organize work on construction sites, intensify construction-assembly operations, and ensure the putting into operation of the new projects on schedule and the achievement of the planned parameters in all commissioned production capacities in the shortest time possible.

At the same time, the plenum sets a very great task for the party bodies and organizations, all ministries, central departments, and enterprises—namely, to pay particular attention to the smooth fulfillment—day after day, and month after month—of export production, as an intrinsic part of the activity of ensuring our country's development in general and of the policy of broad cooperation with all states in the world, to the achievement and delivery—on schedule and at a qualitatively high level—of all commodities stipulated in our contracts with foreign partners, and attention to the sale of Romanian products in foreign markets as best as possible.

Through its provisions, the uniform national socioeconomic development plan for 1989 ensures—according to the plenum—an intensive and high rate of development of all branches and areas, the maximum utilization of the resources in our economy, an increase in the national wealth and in our people's standard of living and level of civilization, and contributes to the achievement of the strategic target of the current 5-year plan—Romania's transition to a higher stage, the stage of a medium-developed country.

The plenum also examined and endorsed the Draft Plan on the Development of Agriculture, Food Industry, Forestry, and Water Management for 1989, drawn up under the direct guidance of the party secretary general, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, emphasizing that the draft plan is fully in accordance with the conditions and great possibilities that exist in this basic branch of the national economy.

The plenum calls on the bodies and ministries entrusted with tasks in this area, as well as on agricultural bodies, people's councils, and on all workers in villages to take very energetic action to ensure large, secure, and stable agricultural yields, and to make sure that each plot of land and all lands, equipment, and machines are utilized with the greatest of responsibility, that the results of scientific research and modern technologies are expanded, that the experience of front-ranking units, which have been awarded the title of "Hero of the New Agrarian Revolution," is generally applied, and that action is taken to ensure that all operations are of good quality and carried out on schedule, that irrigation systems operate appropriately, that the amounts of livestock and animal production are increased, and that all planned quantities are delivered to the state stocks.

The plenum assesses that the provisions of the Draft Centralized Financial Plan of Socioeconomic Activity and the Draft State Budget for 1989, which were discussed and unanimously endorsed, ensure the necessary resources to constantly increase the intensive development of industry, agriculture, and the other branches, and to consolidate and strengthen socialist, state, and cooperative ownership.

The plenum calls on the Ministry of Finance, banks, the whole economic-financial and bookkeeping apparatus in ministries, central departments, enterprises, and institutions, and on all workers in this sector to improve the activity of all units in accordance with the principles of the economic-financial mechanism, in order to achieve maximum economic results and profits, to increase efficiency in all areas, spend funds rationally, strengthen financial-banking control, especially preventive control, introduce a strict savings system and perfect order and financial discipline, attain all planned resources, and preserve the financial, budgetary, monetary, and foreign currency balance.

The plenum examined and unanimously endorsed the Program for Self-Management and Self-Sufficiency To Ensure Proper Supplies of Agricultural Produce, Foodstuffs, and Industrial Goods for the Population in 1989, which was formulated in complete accordance with the decisions of the 13th RCP Congress and and the national conference, and with the requirements of constantly

improving the standard of living and well-being of the whole nation, which are closely and directly linked with the development of the national economy in general.

Taking into consideration the important tasks set by the party secretary general, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu, the plenum calls on people's councils—as regional self-management bodies—on the Ministry of Agriculture, the Ministry of Food Industry, the Ministry of Contracting and Procurement of Agricultural Produce, and on state and cooperative agricultural units to pay particular and constant attention to implementing the provisions of the program for central and local self-sufficiency and to ensuring proper supplies for the population. In this respect, the plenum emphasizes the particular importance of ensuring the participation of all working people in industry and agriculture in fulfilling the tasks put forward by the uniform national plan on socioeconomic development in order to secure proper supplies for the population and to increase the standard of living of all our people—the supreme goal of the party policy and the essence of our socialist system.

In fully endorsing the plans and programs on the agenda, the plenum expresses the conviction that these important documents will be approved by our whole nation, and that the working people, at the helm with the Communists, will do all that they can to implement them.

The plenum calls on our heroic workers class to work with determination and in a revolutionary spirit to completely fulfill this year's plan and to successfully fulfill the 1989 tasks and the targets of the current 5-year plan.

The plenum calls on the peasantry and all working people in villages to do all they can to attain the largest possible vegetable and animal production, in order to match the level of plan provisions and the requirements of the new agrarian revolution.

The plenum calls on men of science and all cadres from the scientific research sector to devote all their work and creativity to implementing the targets of the scientific-technical revolution and of the new agrarian revolution, to promoting technical progress in all areas and sectors of activity, and to affirming science as an important factor in our country's development.

The plenum expresses the conviction that the party bodies and organizations and the bodies of workers revolutionary democracy will work with great responsibility to commendably fulfill their particular tasks of organizing and leading activities in all areas, and of broadly mobilizing the working people to fulfill the 1989 plan and the overall 5-year plan, and to unflinchingly implement Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu's guidelines and recommendations, as well as the decisions of the 13th RCP Congress and the national conference, and welcome the 14th RCP Congress and the 45th anniversary of the antifascist and anti-imperialist revolution for national and social liberation with ever new and greater successes.

Closely united around the party and its secretary general, we pledge to work with great Communist responsibility and with the most fervent patriotism to make sure that each working collective will apply—in its life, work, and activity—the theses, ideas, and guidelines of the exceptional theoretical and practical significance included in the speech given by our much beloved and esteemed leader, Comrade Nicolae Ceausescu. We pledge to do all we can to spare no efforts to successfully implement the bold targets put forward by the 13th RCP Congress and the national conference, and to raise our dear homeland to the highest pinnacles of socialist civilization!

Speeches to 1 Dec GNA Session Noted

AU0812200188 [Editorial Report] Bucharest SCINTEIA in Romanian on 2 December carries 24 reports ranging between 300 and 1,800 words on speeches made by various deputies at the 1 December session of the Grand National Assembly [GNA] in Bucharest. All speeches, totaling some 20,000 words, deal in general terms with various facets of socioeconomic activity, with particular emphasis on Nicolae Ceausescu's and occasionally Elena Ceausescu's "great role in fashioning Romania's overall domestic and foreign policy." Most of the speakers admit certain failures in their specific fields of activity, assume full responsibility for them, pledge to eliminate all negative states of affairs, and express approval for the "scientifically corroborated draft laws submitted for GNA endorsement."

Ion Dinca and Gheorghe Oprea, first deputy prime ministers of the government, are the only full PEC members to have addressed the general debates (their speeches, along with that of Vasile Milea, PEC candidate member and minister of national defense were filed separately as referent items 2, 3, and 4). Speeches by the following PEC candidate members are also reported:

Nicolae Giosan, GNA chairman, whose opening speech consists of practically nothing but praise for Nicolae and Elena Ceausescu's "great merits" and only briefly touches on the tasks incumbent on the current GNA session, which, "through a happy coincidence," takes place on the day of the 70th anniversary of "the great act of historic justice, namely the Great Union of 1 December 1918," which marked the "creation of the united Romanian national state";

Gheorghe David, minister of agriculture, who, after referring to "results obtained this year in agriculture," without further elaboration, proceeds to discuss the provisions of the 1989 agricultural plan, "which envisages a 5-5.5 percent increase in the overall agricultural production and a 6-6.5 percent increase in the net agricultural production";

Ion Ursu, first vice chairman of the National Council for Science and Technology, who talks about current concerns of the Romanian research with "improving technologies, reducing energy and material consumption norms, and increasing overall economic efficiency" and effusively praises the role played in this respect by Elena Ceausescu, "illustrious representative of the Romanian and world science";

Ioachim Moga, first secretary of Cluj County RCP Committee, who deals with local achievements, shortcomings, and development targets in his county and also refers to the 70th anniversary of "Transylvania's union with the rest of the country," which marked "the union of all Romanians into a single state, in the geographic area of old Dacia, our forefathers' land";

Ilie Matei, first secretary of Timis County RCP, who, after briefly reviewing local achievements and concerns, dwells at length on his county's export efforts, particularly on the need to "recover lags in the item-specified production earmarked for export."

Speeches by the following two RCP Central Committee members with ministerial positions are also reported: Marin Enache, minister of metallurgical industry, who says, without providing any details, that "in the first 10 months of this year the steel industry has scored better results than last year," after which he deals in general terms with plan provisions for the coming year;

Ioan Ungur, minister of foreign trade and international economic cooperation, who says that the "1989 draft plan provides for important increases in the foreign trade volume" and points out the need to "better prepare Romanian offers at international auctions for construction-assembly projects."

Ceausescu Interviewed by Australian Daily

AU0712183988 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1748 GMT 7 Dec 88

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES, 7/12/1988—On Wednesday, December 7, Romania's President Nicolae Ceausescu received Nicholas Rothwell, special envoy of the Australian daily "THE AUSTRALIAN."

On the occasion, President Nicolae Ceausescu gave an interview for "THE AUSTRALIAN" daily.

Romanian Stand at CSCE Meeting Noted

AU0912143388 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1138 GMT 9 Dec 88

["Responsibility for Europe's Security and Peace"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 9/12/1988—The Romanian daily SCINTEIA carries a Vienna dispatch on the all-European meeting in Austria's capital. It shows in connection with the draft final document debated by the conference that Romania has steadily advocated a well-balanced document that should take account of the realities in the continent and of the interests of all participant states, serve the strengthening of security and the development of multilateral cooperation in Europe. It is the principled position sustained by Romania all along the negotiations and it is in its spirit that it further works. The major target pursued, for whose implementation Romania permanently deployed persevering constructive efforts, is to build a Europe united in its diversity where all peoples may develop free, conduct extensive collaboration among them, in full security and peace.

Thanks to Romania's efforts and perseverence, despite almost general opposition at the respective time, the Final Act of Helsinki included a specific chapter on "the military dimension of security". As seen by Romania, real security in Europe is directly conditioned by the gradual elimination of the danger spelt by the accumulation of tremendous amounts of weapons of all kind, nuclear included, in this geographic region. The holding of a meeting on disarmament in Europe, as suggested by Romania from the very beginning at the rostrum of the Vienna meeting, would undoubtedly be an important step toward the fulfilment of the European peoples' expectations. The beginning of negotiations on conventional disarmament issues is the more necessary as this kind of weapons has gone through a process of intense improvement in recent years, nearing, by destructive performance, the nuclear weapons. The way to the implementation of actual measures of nuclear disarmament is not an easy one. Just like the process of building European security as a whole, it is very complex and difficult. The course of the Vienna meeting, that had to overcome many obstacles, often influenced by the persistence of practices that were in obvious contradiction with the principles enshrined in the Helsinki Final Act, confirms the urgent need for a new way of thinking and of approaching the issues in Europe, as well as the world issues generally, starting from the vital interests of all peoples to live in full security and peace. The chances of progress toward a united Europe of peace and security really depend on the understanding of every participant state's responsibility in such a crucial moment for the continent's destiny, SCINTEIA concludes.

Article Views International Balance of Power

AU0712195188 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1840 GMT 7 Dec 88

["A Profoundly Scientific Analysis of the Balance of Forces in International Arena"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest AGERPRES, 7/12/1988—In the series of articles dwelling on the analysis President Nicolae Ceausescu made in his exposition at the recent joint meeting of the plenum of the CC of the RCP, of the democratic bodies and of the mass and public organizations as regards the processes and tendencies that define the present-day world, "SCINTEIA" newspaper writes

inter alia: Evaluating the latest developments in a realistic spirit the exposition points out that there has been no radical change yet in the international life, that the policy of peace and disarmament, of detente and cooperation has not yet asserted itself resolutely. Of particular importance is the problem of perspectives, of assessing future developments. Facts show that the main exponents and bearers of the tendencies toward peace and understanding are involved in growth and development processes. Efforts are being made in socialist countries to turn to best account the advantages of the socialist mode of production, which will lead to the strengthening of this major factor of the peace forces. Deep-going progressive social and national changes, sometimes even of a revolutionary character, continue to occur in numerous other countries. Some of the states not so long ago deeply involved in the arms race or military conflicts are reconsidering and refraining from following the old path the negative consequences of which have been so acutely felt. The new arming projects are met with reserve and even objections even within the respective military alliances. On the other hand, the great problem of the widening economic gap, the ever more acute tragedy of underdevelopment raise the question of disarmament-development relationship on a world plane in new and ever more imperative terms. Finally, a new outlook, freed from sectarian rigidities, on the general front of the peace forces, on the possibilities and the necessity of their broad cooperation is gaining ground.

In consideration of this situation, the newspaper assesses, and on the basis of a survey of facts, President Nicolae Ceausescu points to the need for a joint action of all the realistic forces, of all peoples to bring about the ever more marked assertion of the tendency toward a new policy of disarmament and peace, toward a democratic development of mankind. As the exposition stresses, everybody should understand that in conditions of nuclear arms there is only one way, only one policy—that of complete renunciation of force and war, of achieving a new thinking, a new, democratic policy which should exclude force and war from the international life.

It is Romania's belief that through the concerted action of the peoples, of the advanced forces it is fully possible to make such a policy prevail in the international life. The peoples' joint action will make the balance of forces on a world plane favour ever more peace, cooperation, the establishment of a better and more just world, "SCINTEIA" concludes.

Human Rights Day Marked in Bucharest

AU1012190888 Bucharest AGERPRES in English 1833 GMT 10 Dec

["Romania: An Active Policy Regarding Major Human Rights"—AGERPRES headline]

[Text] Bucharest, AGERPRES, 10/12/1988—The human rights day and the anniversary of 40 years since the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights are observed in Romania today.

A festive meeting was held in Bucharest addressed by Minister of Justice Maria Bobu.

The 10 December newspapers give much space to this anniversary pointing out the deeply humanistic conception promoted by Romania in relation to human rights. In its commentary SCINTEIA shows among other things: Starting from steady care for the individual, from the demand for an unhampered assertion of human personality, the question regarding human rights is a centrepiece of Romania's humanist policy. The deep-going revolutionary and renewing transformations wrought in the Romanian society in the last four decades, especially in the last 23 years, provided conditions for the attainment of the Romanian people's centuries-old aspirations after living in a free, independent country, master of its destiny. As an outcome of the policy consistently promoted by the Romanian Communist Party, Romania obtained genuinely historic achievements in raising the people's standard of living, its material and spiritual welfare. The proclamation of human rights and freedoms in the Constitution and in the other laws of the country as well as their effective exercise in Romania are guaranteed by the abolition for good and all of any form of man's exploitation by man as well as by the unity of interests between the individual and society.

The ensurance of fully equal rights of all the homeland's sons is among Romania's remarkable achievements in the sphere of human rights. Taking firm action for a harmonious development of the forces of production in all the country's localities and counties, Romania set out from the conviction that only by providing effectively equal conditions of life, work and education, of participation in the socioeconomic life can full equality be achieved for all the citizens in Romania.

Moreover, on an international plane, Romania has carried on an intense activity declaring at the UN and in other international fora against any violation of human rights, against the war propaganda, chauvinism and revanchist actions, for the complete abolition of the apartheid and racial discrimination policies and the real guaranteeing of human rights.

In Romania's opinion, the indispensable conditions for an effective exercise of these rights lies in the liquidation of economic and social inequalities, in the creation of conditions for the working people to really benefit from the fruits of their work, from the gains of progress and civilization. In the spirit of Romania's profoundly humanistic policy, President Nicolae Ceausescu has recently proposed an aggregate of measures apt to ensure better living and working conditions to the citizens of all countries: the conclusion of a general accord apt to set an equitable and reasonable ratio between the small and the

big incomes in all countries with no distinction as to system, guarantee minimal incomes to all citizens, differentiated by zones, as well as appropriate conditions for nutrition, clothing, housing, schooling and everything a dignified life needs. Proposals were also made for the elaboration of special programmes apt to provide for full use of manpower, the liquidation of unemployment and appropriate technical, cultural and scientific training of working people, especially of youths, the resolution, at a given time, of the housing question for all citizens in each country, fight against terrorism and its causes, eradication of drug addiction and drug trafficking. The settlement of such serious economic and social problems affecting numerous countries, the economically developed states included, would genuinely meet the demands for achieving human rights, would open prospects for an authentic improvement of the quality of life throughout the world.

Romania holds the view that the effective and universal achievement of human rights cannot be conceived without the ensurance of the universal right to life, peace and free and dignified existence. As long as the arms race, the stockpiling of ever more sophisticated weapons of mass destruction continue, as long as the policy of force, domination and dictate is not completely eliminated from the international life, the desideratum for the observance of universal human rights cannot be attained, SCINTEIA shows in conclusion.

Air Force Transport Plane Crashes Near Yerevan

LD1212082688 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0810 GMT 12 Dec 88

[Text] Moscow, 12 Dec (TANJUG)—A transport plane of the Yugoslav Air Force crashed early this morning near Yerevan airport in the Soviet Republic of Armenia.

All seven crew members were killed.

The accident occurred last night, 30 minutes after midnight immediately before our plane was to have landed. The plane crashed only 12 km from the airport.

This was a plane belonging to our Air Force which took off yesterday from Skopje, carrying aid for the victims of the catastrophic earthquake in Armenia

The cause of this accident is still unknown.

Second Plane Departs Skopje

LD1212110988 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1024 GMT 12 Dec 88

[Text] Skopje, 12 DEc (TANJUG)—The news about the crash of a Yugoslav Air Force plane carrying aid from the city of solidarity to the victims in Armenia was received in Skopje with disbelief and deep sorrow.

Immediately after the news, an extraordinary session was held of the republican coordinating body for assistance to the victims in Armenia, at which the decision was made to send a new delivery from Skopje to Yerevan of building construction machinery, special apparatus, and other essential equipment for clearing away rubble and finding survivors.

The building construction work organizations Beton, Granit, Mavrovo, and Pelagonija of Skopje undertook to deliver within just 2 hours all the necessary mechanized equipment to SKopje airport.

The passenger plane which took off yesterday from Skopje airport for Yerevan has still not reached its destination. Because of bad weather, the plane landed yesterday in Ankara. According to information sent to Skopje radio from Ankara airport by the leader of the team, Vladimir Sahov, it is expected that this plane will take off today for Yerevan.

Defense Minister's Condolences

LD1212105188 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1017 GMT 12 Dec 88

[Text] Belgrade 12 Dec (TANJUG)—In connection with the tragic accident to our air force and air defense plane, in which seven crew members lost their lives, Federal Secretary for National Defense Colonel General Veljko Kadijevic has sent, on behalf of the members of the Armed Forces and on his own behalf, telegrams of condolences to the families of the officers of the Yugoslav People's Army who lost their lives.

Commentary Assesses Gorbachev UN Speech

LD0912162488 Zagreb Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Milika Sundic commentary]

[Text] The predictions that Mikhail Gorbachev would make an important speech at the United Nations General Assembly were correct. The world has plenty of reason to be satisfied with the decision by the Soviet Government to reduce the number of Armed Forces in Europe, Mongolia, and in the Soviet Far East and especially to change the Soviet war doctrine which, more than anything, will contribute to the creation of trust in the relations between East and West. It is also significant that there are no conditions connected to the Soviet decision and that it is not directly tied to the course and outcome of the Vienna negotiations on the reduction of conventional armaments and military strike power in Europe. True, Gorbachev called on the big powers to follow the Soviet example, but if they do not, Moscow will not hold back from its intentions. Furthermore, when it is a matter of Western forces, they, in any case, took the view that the USSR has significant advantages in conventional armaments, so it could very easily happen that the Soviet decision is understood as recognition of this fact. This, of course, does not in any way reduce the importance of Gorbachev's move because it, at the very least, signifies a contribution to the future efforts in the direction of general and controlled disarmament, especially in Europe where the concentration of the military forces of the two blocs is most marked and most dangerous for peace.

With the latest proposals, which the General Assembly welcomed, Gorbachev imposed the topic of the talks with Reagan and Bush and in some way obliged them to understand his views as a sincere endeavor to improve international tensions. What is also new is that part of Gorbachev's speech, which related to the problem of Afghanistan, is that it is not just a call for a cease-fire but also a call for an international conference to be held on Afghanistan and for the blue helmets of the United Nations to be sent to this country. Even if the West were to see this as an open recognition of the failure of the Afghanistan adventure, nevertheless the fact cannot be denied that Gorbachev's recipe for peace in Afghanistan is more acceptable and realistic than all previous ones. Although he shortened his stay in New York because of the earthquake in Armenia, and dropped his visit to Cuba, Gorbachev's farewell to Reagan and his acquaintance with Bush will in any event have a significant influence on the overall relations between the USSR and the United States in the months ahead. Bush will in fact, at the beginning of his presidential term of office, be faced with the conciliatory Soviet challenge and because it is believed that in many ways he will go in front of

Reagan, it would not be a surprise to anyone if, as early as next year, he has another meeting with Gorbachev, whether in Moscow or in Washington. This is all the more likely to happen if in the meantime agreement is reached on the reduction of strategic nuclear missiles by 50 percent. In any event, the Americans have understood or at least have begun to understand that Gorbachev is someone to be reckoned with in the long term, in particular his firm orientation that he is persisting with perestroyka as the basis for all present and future steps, both in the internal and in the international sphere.

Further Commentary

AU1012165188 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1400 GMT 10 Dec 88

["Military commentary" by Todor Mirkovic]

[Text] (?With his) speech in the UN General Assembly, presenting the plan for a significant unilateral reduction of the Soviet Armed Forces, Mikhail Gorbachev surprised the world public in a positive sense of the word. According to Gorbachev, (?and his speech which) cannot be considered mere rhetoric, the USSR will, in the coming 2 years, reduce its Armed Forces by 500,000 men; withdraw from Hungary, the CSSR, and the GDR six armored divisions and some airborne and other units numbering 50,000 men; and withdraw a considerable part of its forces from Mongolia.

All the withdrawn units, as well as some within USSR territory, will be disbanded. In this way, (?the USSR will get rid of) 10,000 tanks, 8,000 (?artillery pieces), 800 combat planes, and large quantities of other military equipment. At the same time, military production will be reduced, and some of the military industry will be reoriented to carry out production to meet civilian needs.

By carrying out the above plan, the USSR obviously intends to, first, (?remove some of the) obstacles standing in the way of achieving new disarmament agreements, and second, carry out significant restructuring in its Armed Forces in the coming period. In searching for ways in the negotiations on reduction of conventional forces and armaments, the United States and NATO stress that Soviet superiority in this kind of military power constitutes a serious obstacle.

After the latest Soviet decision and its implementation, (?these objections will probably) lose their importance. The need for restructuring the Soviet Armed Forces, and the intention to do so, has been indicated in the Soviet press. The November issue of the renowned journal, MEZHDUNARODNAYA ZHIZHN, for instance, (?criticizes) the conservative concept of the present structure of the Soviet Armed Forces. (?In the) entire postwar period, stress has been laid on the strengthening of (?offensive) units, which are very expensive forces and their efficiency under modern warfare conditions could be uncertain. According to the journal, the USSR will (?strive) to build a smaller, but more modern army in the coming period.

The USSR decision on the unilateral reduction of conventional forces and armaments, which (?has been endorsed by) other Warsaw Pact member countries, is of (?great) international importance. It should open up a new stage in the development of international relations, in which armed forces and military force in general will play a smaller role.

Macedonia Urges Review of Greek Use of Lake

LD0712102388 Belgrade TANJUG in English 2336 GMT 6 Dec 88

[Text] Skopje, Dec 6 (TANJUG)—Members of the Assembly of Yugoslavia's southern republic of Macedonia today requested that the Federal Assembly review the responsibility of the federal and republican officials who issued a permit to Greece to use the waters of the border lake Dojran (with (?an area) of 42.7 square km), which nearly resulted in an ecological disaster and caused heavy damage to the Yugoslav economy.

Yugoslavia this summer agreed to Greece's request to use five million cubic meters of water from Lake Dojran to water the Salonika Valley hit by drought.

The water was to have been let out gradually so that the lake's level would not drop by more than ten centimeters.

Greece, however, exceeded the permitted quantity and let out 26 million cubic meters of (?water from) the lake, reducing its level by as much as 58 centimeters.

Yugoslavia sent an official protest to Greece in late August over the illegal use of the waters of Lake Dojran and announced that it would seek compensation for damages. The Macedonian Government set up a special group to determine the responsibility of the organs and individuals who made this possible.

The Republican Assembly assessed that Greece should not have been allowed to exceed the allowed quota of water from the lake and requested that immediate proceedings be launched for the compensation of damages caused.

The Macedonian Assembly concluded that there was no need for Yugoslavia to seek a change in the inter-state agreement with Greece over the exploitation of the waters of Lake Dojran but that it must urge full respect of the treaty in the neighbouring country.

Dissident Paraga Barred From FRG Visit

LD0812160588 Hamburg DPA in German 1153 GMT 8 Dec 88

[Text] Belgrade (DPA)—The Yugoslav authorities have barred regime critic Dobroslav Paraga from taking up an invitation to Bonn from Federal President Richard von Weizsaecker. Paraga reported this today to the GERMAN PRESS AGENCY in a telephone call from his Ljubljana residence. He went to the passport offices with Von Weizsaecker's invitation. However, without giving any reason they refused to issue a passport. As a protest against this decision, the critic of the system began a hunger strike. Paraga, who was in jail for several years, is recognized by the international prisoners' aid organisation Amnesty International and by the International Society for Human Rights in Frankfurt as a political victim of persecution. He intended to take part in a reception by the federal president on Saturday to mark Human Rights Day.

FEC Member Kovac Submits Resignation

LD1212125688 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1230 GMT 12 Dec 88

[Text] Belgrade, 12 Dec (TANJUG)—Dr Oskar Kovac, member of the Federal Executive Council and professor, today submitted his resignation. It has been learned that in his explanation of his resignation, Kovac states that he is doing this because of his personal belief that some of the stances of the FEC, Adopted in connection with the document "Elements for Improving Interest Rate Policy" and the established text of some of the articles of the draft law on accounting, open the way for a possible abandoning of the policy of realistically positive real rates. [sentence as received]

Preview of 19th LCY Central Committee Plenum

LD1112144988 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1308 GMT 11 Dec 88

[Text] Belgrade, Dec 11 (TANJUG)—The 19th Plenum of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) Central Committee in Belgrade tomorrow will focus on political and ideological aspects of the economic reform, which has been made possible by the recent constitutional changes in the country, and on the preparations for the 14th party congress scheduled to be held in two years.

The economic reform should secure the Yugoslavs a way out of the long crisis and make it possible for them to live in a society of material prosperity and democracy in the socialism of the 21st century.

The reform is aimed at an open economy based on market laws, economic efficiency and a unified market. To that effect, major changes will be carried out in the country's economic structure, and in the functioning of the state and social activities.

The new systemic laws provide for greater autonomy of enterprises, while the self-employed and workers, who are prepared to take the risk, will be allowed greater initiative. They will be allowed to develop different types of property, because mixed, communal and private property will exist in addition to social property. Moreover, Yugoslavia is opening doors to foreign capital and foreigners can engage in overall economic activities without limitations on the same conditions as Yugoslavs.

Tomorrow's LCY CC plenum is to remove ideological misconceptions and dogmas present in society and the party, which could slow down or check the initiated reforms. There is resistance to the economic reform particularly in cases where monopoly positions in overall economic activities fear market competition. It is also feared that capitalist relations will be restored because the rights of the self-employed have been expanded.

The changes in the political system, which are to accompany the economic reform, are aimed at retaining self-management and, at the same time, at freeing the economy from the state's tutorship, starting from its reform tasks and the aim of establishing genuine political plurality in Yugoslavia.

The discussion about the party reform will in fact be the first preparation for the next LCY Congress, which may be held earlier than scheduled if necessary. The congress will focus on the party reform and the Yugoslav communists will search for an anwer to the key question—whether the LCY should be a democratic movement for socialism or a modern city. [as received]

Session Begins 12 Dec

LD1212085188 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 0830 GMT 12 Dec 88

[Text] Belgrade, 12 Dec (TANJUG)—In Belgrade today the 19th session of the LCY Central Committee began; the main subject is consideration of the ideopolitical issues of economic reform and of the LC's tasks in carrying out this reform. The members of the top party forum will also discuss at this plenum the proposed activities for preparations for the 14th LCY Congress.

Commentary Criticizes LCY Presidium Statement

AU0712205988 Belgrade Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1800 GMT 7 Dec 88

[Kosta Krajincanic commentary]

[Text] At a time when Yugoslavia is going through a dramatic period, at a time when the most energetic and crucial moves and clear and most specific assessments of some phenomena and events, which are literally destroying the system, are expected from the party leadership, the LCY Central Committee Presidium yesterday published a statement of which almost two-thirds was devoted to the media's work. Is it possible that this is the most topical political subject when the economy is dying,

when inflation is eating the last reserves of our strength and money, and when a great majority of Yugoslavs are continuing to enter the zone of existential twilight, while corruption, crime, lawlessness, and political self-interests are growing?

Is the press the biggest obstacle to progress and the most dangerous sower of discord at a time when, because of the republican-provincial selfishness and isolation, the state sovereignty of Yugoslavia has weakened like never before in its peace-time history, at a time when the centrifugal forces of separatism on the one hand and the front for refusing reforms on the other hand, have almost completed the job of breaking the state.

At a time when it was expected that the country's leadership would come forward and stand in defense of Yugoslavia, and clearly and loudly express its view on everything, the LCY Central Committee Presidium opted for an obsolete, general, discouraging variation of issuing criticism without an address. The press has again suffered the brunt of this criticism.

In this criticism, one can recognize everybody and nobody. It provides one with the right to attack others and defend himself. The results are known and are in complete contradiction with the intention. The conflicts continue and the crisis deepens.

The newspapers are mainly criticized for allowing themselves to serve only the leadership, that they are not critical toward our leaders' work, that they are a battlefield for unprincipled and unfounded quarrels, manipulation, abuse, and that they wage some kind of propaganda war with each other. Seen in general terms, this assessment is true. However, nothing has been said about which and whose newspapers were in question, nor which position was being used to wage this propaganda war, who represents what, what ideas are promoted, what are the visions, and what are the intentions and orientations. There is no policy toward the press writing in specific areas of the country. Everything is treated in the same way and is viewed as equally dubious which is a sure recipe for further and even sharper disputes.

The Central Committee Presidium has the same general political approach in treating and assessing the burning political issues in the country. For instance, the demonstrations in Kosovo are said to have helped Albanian nationalists, hindered the implementation of the 17th session's conclusions, and made the total situation in Kosovo even more complicated. Except for this plain truth, there has not been a single word as to who has incited Albanian nationalists to protest, and why, and who should be held responsible for this. Why does the leadership of the Yugoslav party hesitate to name the saboteurs of reform and the instigators of the crisis in a principled and a well-argued way. There are more than enough principles and arguments for this.

The statement issued at the last session of the LCY Central Committee Presidium advocates—one must admit this because it is obvious—unity, goodwill, cooperation, communist relations, comradely approach toward resolving clashes and problems. All these good intentions, however, do not have many chances for success in the context of extremely general and at times euphemistic attitudes toward the most topical political events and controversies which could only be resolved if a clear and resolute political view is taken from an authoritative place.

Assembly Security Committee Discusses Kosovo
LD0812000188 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1027 GMT 7 Dec 88

[Excerpts] Belgrade, 7 Dec (TANJUG)—The Committee for Internal Policy and the Commission for the Control of the State Security Service of the SFRY Assembly's Federal Chamber discussed at today's joint session the current political and security situation in Kosovo.

Slobodan Tadijin, the deputy federal secretary for internal affairs, said, in his introductory speech, that the main features of the current situation in Kosovo are the continued activities by Albanian nationalists and separatists and other forms of hostile activities taking place in Kosovo and aimed at Kosovo; the constant exacerbation of intranational relations as a consequence of hostile activities; and also the insufficient involvement of the organized socialist forces in society. In this context, he pointed to the existing and potential threats to security in Kosovo, Serbia, and Yugoslavia.

Speaking about the execution of tasks within the competence of the organs for internal affairs, Tadijin stressed that their activity is focused on identifying and preventing illegal acts by Albanian nationalists and separatists; and preventing illegal acts by Albanian nationalists and separatists; on protecting the safety of individuals and of property, particularly that which belongs to citizens of Serbian and Montenegrin nationality; on the overall training of the organs for internal affairs of the SAP of Kosovo to make them efficient in carrying out complex, and responsible tasks in noticeably worsened conditions.

Within the framework of its competence and authority, the Federal Secretariat for Internal Affairs has been constantly undertaking and initiating measures to protect the constitutional order, public peace and order, and the safety of citizens and their property. Besides being involved in the regular coordination of the work of the state security service, in coordinating important actions in the area of public security, and in controlling the enforcement of the federal laws in the domain of internal affairs, the Federal Secretariat has been particularly involved in carrying out the tasks stemming from the documents issued by the highest state and party organs relating to stabilizing security conditions in Kosovo. A special involvement has been demonstrated in carrying out the obligations emerging from the conclusions

adopted by the 9th, 16th, and 17th LCY Central Committee session and from the Yugoslav program to stop the emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins and to speed up the return of those who have emigrated and the arrival of all those who wish to live and work there.

To accomplish all these tasks and duties the Federal Secretariat has closely cooperated with the internal affairs organs in the republics and autonomous provinces and with the security services of the Federation. This cooperation in general, and in the case of Kosovo in particular, has been improved significantly over the last few years. The Federal Secretariat has been promptly informing the competent organs and organizations about all the facts relevant to the security and has also suggested additonal measures and activities.

Citing the effects of the measures already accomplished, Tadijin said, among other things, that suppressing the illegal activities of Albanian nationalists and separatists has produced notable results. This is confirmed by the fact that this year two illegal groups, comprising 50 individuals, were uncovered and legal measures against them taken. A significant contribution is being made to the protection of citizens and their personal property by deploying security measures and, particularly, by the involvement of the joint police unit. By deploying the members of this unit and by sending help to the organs for internal affairs of Kosovo in executing their regular security tasks, overall prevention work has been improved, the degree of citizens's safety raised, the number of major threats to the safety of individuals and property belonging to Serbs and Montenegrins reduced, and greater efficiency achieved in investigating the excesses an taking measures against the offenders. Professional aid, given by a substantial number of the operative officials in the security services from all republics, the SAP of Vojvodina and the Federal Secretary, has already produced preliminary results in suppressing hostile activities. These workers have been assigned to the organs for internal affairs of Kosovo for a longer period to work on security tasks in the framework of these services.

A quicker lasting stabilization of the security situation in Kosovo can be achieved through the more efficient functioning of the system of social self- protection in its entirety only, in which the organs and the security services have great obligations and responsibility, Tadijin concluded. [passage omitted]

Joze Susmelj observed that there are no long-term Yugoslav strategies for Kosovo, that indoctrination is rampant and intranational distrust profound. He said that teachers in the schools cannot be expected to fight against indoctrination, when differentiation has not be carried out among them either. The imprisonment of young people makes heroes of them when they come out of prison, and the anti-Yugoslav movement is becoming a mass movement. We are critical of the ineffectiveness of the security organs, though all others have done even less than them, Susmelj pointed out.

Bozo Kovac assessed that in Kosovo the rights of all citizens—Serbs and Montenegrins, but also honest Albanians and all others—are threatened. The state's rule of law is weak in our country generally and in Kosovo it is worst of all. Albanians cannot help others when they themselves are not free. Effective repression is needed against separatism, he believes, but we must say clearly to the world that the Albanians as a national minority cannot obtain a republic, because the possibility of secession exists. Here our Yugoslav program for Kosovo is not being implemented because this needs goodwill, and there is none—there is more hatred. This program should also be reexamined, Kovac believes. [passage omitted]

Tadijin provided the information that the federal security organs in the previous 3 months have registered movements by certain members of the Albanian nationality and their departure from other parts of the country to Kosovo, accompanied even by their giving up work, and have informed the republican and provincial organs about this. Intensified activity by anti-Yugoslav Albanian forces abroad has been recorded. This is a warning—Deputy Federal Secretary Slobodan Tadijin said—of the possibility of an outbreak of disturbances in Kosovo.

The working group of the committee and of the commission is meeting on 12 December to formulate conclusions.

Bosnia-Hercegovina To Fill Vacant LCY Seats

LD1012175588 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1515 GMT 10 Dec 88

[Text] Sarajevo, 10 Dec (TANJUG)—Today Zivko Grubor, chairman of the Cadre Commission of the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC Central Committee, informed the Presidium that 10 places in the LCY Central Committee are to be filled from the Bosnia-Hercegovina LC. Rudi Kolak will withdraw at his own request; Branko Mikulic became the president of the Federal Executive Council; Hrvoje Istuk, Mato Andric, Milanko Renovica, and Nikola Stojanovic submitted requests to be released from their posts. Besides, a procedure for establishing their ideo-political responsibility has been initiated. An initiative for relieving Munic Mesihovic was started earlier.

Grubor informed the Presidium that a discussion on whether Raif Dizdarevic, as the president of the SFRY Presidency, can be a member of the LCY Central Committee will be held at a session of the Central Committee.

Thus, three places in the LCY Central Committee from Bosnia-Hercegovina are vacant.

Kosovo Activists Call Dragosavac To Account
AU0712191188 Belgrade POLITIKA in Serbo-Croatian 3 Dec 88 p 6

[M. Vujovic report: "The Strange Principles of Dusan Dragosavac"]

[Text] Kosovo Polje, 2 Dec—The citizens of Kosovo Polje expected that the visit of Dusan Dragosavac, member of the LCY Central Committee and a prominent personality in the Croatian LC and LCY Central Committee for many years, would, if nothing else, bring at least some encouragement to the Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo who are on the point of emigrating en masse. It was expected that he would clearly condemn the counterrevolution and its proponents and express the determination of the LCY Central Committee and its presidium to use all methods to destroy the counterrevolution in Kosovo. This was said at this evening's session of the presidiums of the LC action conferences of the 16th and 17th local communities of Kosovo Polje.

Instead of all this, Dragosavac strove as hard as possible to show that what has been happening in Kosovo, could be found in other regions of Yugoslavia and to say that he saw no particular reason for the Serbs and Montenegrins to emigrate from Kosovo. He stressed that he could not in principle vote for expulsions from the LCY. These are strange principles and an even stranger performance recently in front of the political activ of Kosovo Polje, when he did not use the word counterrevolution once and did not deal with the recent 5-day mass demonstrations by Albanians. He did not speak about the problems of Kosovo either and his speech included only general themes. He did not even mention the conclusions of the 9th, 16th, and 17th sessions of the LCY Central Committee, nor did he say that the Provincial Committee and its Presidium were most responsible for the serious situation in Kosovo and that therefore, the LCY Central Committee were seeking the establishment of collective and individual responsibility.

His opportunistic behavior provoked much bitterness among the citizens of Kosovo Polje and particularly among the Serbs and Montenegrins and caused even greater confusion, while at the same time he encouraged the greater Albanian separatists. The presidiums of the action conferences of the 16th and 17th local communities demand that Dusan Dragosavac's ideopolitical accountability be assessed, as well as his contribution to the stimulation of the counterrevolutionary forces in Kosovo, especially since he supported Fadilj Hodza, the main ideologist of the counterrevolutionary forces in Kosovo, at the 9th session of the LCY Central Committee itself.

Ideopolitical Status Challenged
LD0912180988 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1704 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Vranje, 9 Dec (TANJUG)—During his stay in Kosovo, Dr Dusan Dragosavac, member of the LCY Central Committee, made statements and acted contrary to the decisions adopted at the 17th LCY Central Committee session. For this reason, the highest forum of Yugoslav Communists should ascertain his ideological and political responsibility. This was the conclusion adopted at a Vranje Municipal LC Committee Presidium session because Dragosavac's attitudes are unacceptable and do not contribute toward ending the emigration of Serbs and Montenegrins which is made under pressure of the counterrevolution in Kosovo.

The Vranje LC Municipal Committee Presidium, has asked the LCY Central Committee to ascertain the degree of Dusan Dragosavac's ideopolitical responsibility. His behavior in Kosovo did not conform with the policy of the LCY and the Serbian LC.

Tupurkovski on LC's National Equality Commitment
LD0912183788 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1708 GMT 9 Dec 88

[Text] Belgrade, Dec 9 (TANJUG)—By failing to liquidate the counter-revolutionary activity of ethnic Albanian chauvinists and separatists in the Autonomous Province of Kosovo, the League of Communists is suffering its most serious moral fall, member of the Yugoslav party leadership Vasil Tupurkovski said in an interview to the weekly KOMMUNIST today.

Such a situation in Kosovo has brought into question the strategic commitment of the League of Communists to national equality, the League of Communists of Yugoslavia (LCY) Central Committee Presidency member told the party organ.

No-one can put up an alibi before history for the violation of the basic human rights of Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo, Tupurkovski said categorically.

"We do not need everyone in the League of Communists or in Yugoslavia. If someone wants another Yugoslavia, a Yugoslavia of national divisions and of peoples who speak the language of hate, let them seek it in other parts, in those where they will find understanding," Tupurkovski said.

In this context, the recent five-day demonstrations of ethnic Albanians in Kosovo and developments surrounding them in a dramatic way intensify precisely the questions of the (non) acceptance and (non) implementation of the party conclusions on Kosovo, the party official said.

These developments, he added, make topical the question of the responsibility of Albanians as the majority population in Kosovo for the suppression of nationalism and hostility and the guaranteeing of all rights of Serbs and Montenegrins in the province.

Urging a joint front of ethnic Albanians, Serbs and Montenegrins in Kosovo, Tupurkovski emphasized that the Albanian must be respected and the rights of the national Albanian minority protected as this is the "condition for the survival of all of us in this country and of our policy."

It is high time for us to become categorical and uncompromising in overcoming the Albanian chauvinism and separatism which has carried out a deep and wide indoctrination and started to eat away at the very political entity of Kosovo, Tupurkovski concluded.

Pristina District Forms LC Regional Conference

AU0712181788 Pristina RILINDJA in Albanian 4 Dec 88 p 5

[T.N. report: "Stable Political and Security Situation"]

[Text] The joint meeting of the four basic LC organizations of the local community of Vranjevac in Pristina discussed the present political and security situation and last month's mass gatherings of citizens. Tomislav Radovic, LCY Central Committee member; Sherafedin Sylejmani, member of the Kosovo Political Aktiv; and Zika Mitrovic and Gani Jashari, secretary and executive secretary of the Pristina LC Communal Committee Presidium, also took part in the meeting.

The opening speech by Agim Pacarada and the speeches of Avni Luma, Jakup Shylemaja, Beqir Fazliu, Murat Pacarada, Nuhi Krasniqi, Ragip Vitia, Bejtush Sejdiu, Miftar Ibrahimi, Salih Maloku, Krsta Bulajic, Fatmir Brajshori, Shefki Krasniqi, Bajram Dili, Rizah Ilazi, and others stressed that the political and security situation is sound and stable for members of all our peoples and nationalities. In the lively and intensive activity of recent days, citizens have been aware that there is no further need for mass gatherings, for they would exacerbate the situation. They are insistent that the conclusions of the 17th LCY Central Committee plenum should be meticulously carried out, and they support the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee and all the appeals for the further stabilization of the situation that have been issued in the wake of the mass gatherings.

It was stressed that the mass gatherings of citizens, working people, students, and schoolchildren were spontaneous. They expressed loyalty to a continuation of Tito's road and to the LCY, and to stronger brotherhood and unity and togetherness among all our peoples and nationalities. It was also underlined that nobody manipulated the workers and others.

Participants in the meeting dissociated themselves from Tomislav Sekulic, Miodrag Dragosavac, Momcilo Trajkovic, and others, and demanded that they should be called to ideopolitical account for what were called blanket judgments in their speeches at the Serbian LC Conference. They also dissociated themselves from the assessments of the two presidiums of the SR of Serbia in connection with the mass gatherings of citizens in our province. At the same time, they demanded an explanation of the proposal of the Pristina LC Communal Committee as well as its publication, since, as some media have reported, this committee agreed to the collective resignation of the Kosovo LC Provincial Committee.

The meeting drew attention to the nonobjective reporting of POLITIKA and JEDINSTVO and demanded that the journalists Zejnel Zejneli and Milisav Milic be called to account for tendentious writing.

At the end of the meeting, the decision to form the LC Regional Conference of the Vranjevac Local Community was unanimously supported.

Dusan Popovski Treated at Medical Academy

AU0712182388 Belgrade BORBA in Serbo-Croatian 6 Dec 88 p 5

[TANJUG report: "Dusan Popovski Treated at the Military Medical Academy"]

[Text] Belgrade, 5 Dec—Dusan Popovski, president of the SFRY Assembly, has been having tests and receiving treatment at the Military Medical Academy in Belgrade since 8 November. This was announced today by the SFRY Assembly president's office.